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Wednesday, December 21, 2005

Volume 102, Issue 51

INSIDE

TEMPO



Cpl. Derek Lang of Bell Acres is spending the holidays in Iraq hard at work through the recent election — but missing home. See Page 13.

LEND A PAW

Our series, Creature Comforts, concludes this week with stories from those who contributed to our holiday campaign. See Page 5.

SPORTS



New Riverhounds coach and soccer icon Gene Klein comments on his time at Quaker Valley and goals for the professional team. See Page 26.

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SEASON'S GREETINGS



THE SEWICKLEY home of Nancy and Gary Fleming is picture perfect in its decorations for this holiday season.

SANTA TALK

Preschoolers chat about Santa

By Laura Halleman

Staff writer

Four and five year olds at The Learning Tree Preschool on Thorn Street, Sewickley, had some unique answers to a question posed to them last week.

Here are their responses to the question, "What does Santa Claus do after he is finished delivering presents around the world?"

Danny: "He takes care of his reindeer first and feeds them oats and then goes to sleep."

Harrison: "His mommy makes him a blanket, and he just waits until next Christmas."



Abby: "He goes to bed at the North Pole."

Amelia: "He goes to the beach for a vacation but takes his red suit off and puts on his swimsuit before he goes in the water."

Tyler: "He checks that all of his reindeer are home and feeds them magic oats."

Nicole: "He heats his blanket and clothes in the dryer because he doesn't have fur to keep him warm like the reindeer do."

Christopher: "He rests in front of the TV and

Continued on Page 9

ACCIDENT

Leetsdale's Mike Maruca laid to rest

By Laura Halleman

Staff writer

Leetsdale Mayor Pete Poninsky proclaimed yesterday (Tuesday) as Michele Maruca Day, as the former mayor was laid to rest in Sewickley Cemetery after a service was held at St. Andrew's United Presbyterian Church in Sewickley, followed by interment in Sewickley Cemetery.

Michele (Mike) Maruca, 66, a former mayor of Leetsdale, was killed last week on Tuesday around noon in a car accident near the intersection of Route 65 and Walnut Street in Sewickley.

He was driving in the northbound lane of Route 65 when his vehicle strayed into the southbound lanes, striking a tractor-trailer.

Sewickley police officer Kenneth Wolf said the impact of Maruca's vehicle with the tractor-trailer caused Maruca's vehicle to flip twice, ejecting his wife, Olga, from the vehicle and onto the southbound lanes. She was taken to Allegheny General Hospital for her injuries, which were not life-threatening.

Maruca was partially ejected from the vehicle and pronounced dead at the scene.

Wolf said neither Maruca nor his wife were wearing seat belts at the time of the accident. The driver of the tractor-trailer was not injured.

Maruca served as mayor of Leetsdale from 1990 to 1997 and again from 1998 to 2001.

He also previously served on borough council and was recently reelected to council

Continued on Page 3

last minute gift, lasting impression.

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Leetsdale's Mike Maruca killed in crash

Continued from Page 1

and was looking forward to being sworn in January.

He was also the owner of Mike's Place in Leetsdale and former owner of Crossings Bar and Grill.

Colleagues of Maruca's were stunned by the news of his death.

"I just sat with him at a restaurant after last Thursday's council meeting to talk about the borough," said Leetsdale council president Roger Nanni.

"Now he won't be there, and I don't know where we go from here."

Council member Linda Sovich said that, although, she and Maruca didn't see eye to eye on everything, from a political perspective, his intentions for the borough were always good.

"Mike was so full of character. He was able to evoke the extreme of your emotions, whether that was laughter or disagreement. He will be missed."

In memory

Mike Maruca was born Aug. 7, 1939, in Falerna, Italy, he was the son of the late Pietro and Rosanna Maruca.

As a young boy, he moved to France and worked as a dishwasher in a restaurant.

He later took a job in a French steelmill where he worked until he came to America at the age of 22. He found work as a gardener for the late W.C. Robinson Jr. and delivered newspapers.

On July 10, 1965, he married his first



Mike Maruca

File photo

wife, Thomasina Scalercio, and in 1966, he took on the full-time position of grounds superintendent for Mr. Robinson and became his full-time chauffeur.

In 1973, he purchased a bar, known as Mike's Place, from the Greenhouse family, which was formerly owned by his uncle, Mike Maruca.

In 1978, he purchased the old Barlow Store in Leetsdale and converted it into The New Mike's Place Restaurant and Bar, and in 1983, purchased the Wexford Hair Care Beauty Salon.

In 1996, Mike went into partnership

with Ron August and together, they opened The Crossing Bar and Grill. He became sole owner in 1998, and in 2002, he sold his interest to Nick Tucker.

His other business ventures included real estate investment properties, both locally and in Florida.

Mike served on the Leetsdale Borough Council from Nov. 11, 1987, to Dec. 31, 1989, and from Feb. 12, 1998, to October 1998, and was elected again to council and was to be sworn in this coming January.

He served as Mayor of Leetsdale from Jan. 2, 1990, to Dec. 31, 1997, and from October 1998 to Dec. 31, 2001.

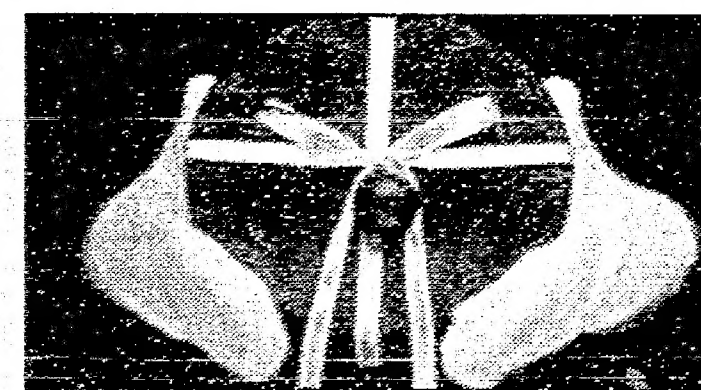
Surviving are his second wife, Olga Synyak Maruca; two sons, Giovanni (John) Maruca and his wife, Naomi, and Michele Maruca, all of London, England; a granddaughter, Isabella Maruca; three brothers and sisters-in-law: John and Rose Maruca, Hollywood, Fla.; Rossario and Denise Maruca; and Mario and Jacqueline Maruca, all in France; a sister and brother-in-law, Vincenza and Orlando Renne, of Moon Township, and his former wife, Thomasina Maruca.

He also leaves numerous nieces and nephews and cousins in America and Falerna, Italy, to mourn his loss.

A funeral service was held in St. Andrew's Church Tuesday (yesterday) with the Rev. Lynn Portz officiating.

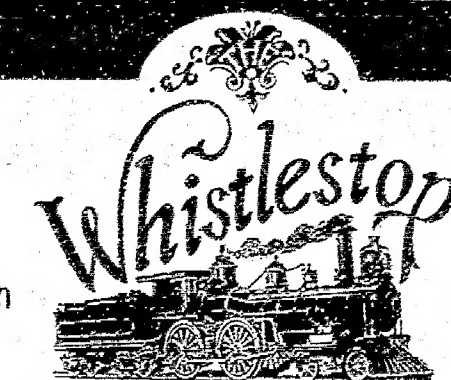
Interment followed in Sewickley Cemetery.

John Syka Funeral Home of Ambbridge handled the arrangements.



The staff of the Sewickley Herald wishes you every
blessing of the holiday ... and joy and peace
in the New Year.

Dona, Laura, Kate, Bill, Liz and Tim



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HARRISBURG

Pippy won't campaign for Lt. Gov. seat

In a statement issued from Sen. John Pippy's Harrisburg office last week, the senator put rumors to rest.

"I am honored to have been approached over the past several months by so many Pennsylvanians, both in and out of politics, suggesting I run for state-wide office," he said.

"While I am flattered by the support, after discussions with my family, I have decided that I will not seek the Republican Party's endorsement for Lieutenant Governor in 2006.

"Instead I plan to spend my time next year in the senate focusing on legislation I have sponsored to reduce the size of the legislature and other important issues such as continuing to improve homeland security in Pennsylvania and strengthening Megan's law to allow for easier access to information to protect all children from child molesters.

"As I (just) celebrated my 35th birthday, I realize that I have won six elections in the past nine years, and our youngest child is now in the 8th grade.

"While I look forward to actively campaigning for the re-election of Sen. Santorum and other Republican candidates, I also look forward to spending some quality time with my family in a year when I am not running for re-election."

BELL ACRES

Borough holds budget millage

By Kate Canon

Staff writer

Bell Acres residents will be happy to know that for the fourth consecutive year, their taxes will remain the same, staying at four mills.

The council met last week, where the 2006 budget was approved.

It was a balanced budget, totaling \$1,169,199 after revenue and expenditures.

There is only one special project planned, which is a makeover of the borough park with new playground equipment.

Borough manager Charles Kulbacki credits the council for the favorable budget plan.

"Our council's really concerned about the residents," Kulbacki said.

"We have a group that really works well together to provide the service required by the residents. They're a good group of people."

Local Herald outlets

• BP Oil Co., Edgeworth, 209 Ohio River Blvd.
• Eckerd, Ambridge, Merchant St. and Eckerd, Leetsdale, Quaker Village Shopping Center, Ohio River Boulevard and Eckerd, Sewickley, 515 Beaver St.

• Frosty's Lottery, 192 Ohio River Blvd. Leetsdale • Giant Eagle, Quaker Village Shopping Center • Iceworks, 441 1/2 Walnut St., • Merchant at 8th, Ambridge • Miller's Mini Mart, 2020 Big Sewickley Creek Road

• Safran's, Sewickley, 429 Walnut St. • Sewickley News, 509 Beaver St. • Sewickley Valley Hospital Gift Shop • Tony R's Pizza, 850 Nevin Avenue • Yankello's, 604 Beaver St.

Bell Acres adds engine to department

By Laura Hallemann

Staff writer

Big Sewickley Creek Volunteer Fire Department has acquired a new fire engine that will replace two aging pieces of equipment.

BELL ACRES

Purchased from First Out Specialty Vehicles and Equipment, located in Moon Township, the new truck will be used primarily as a pumper with a 1,500 gallon per minute pump.

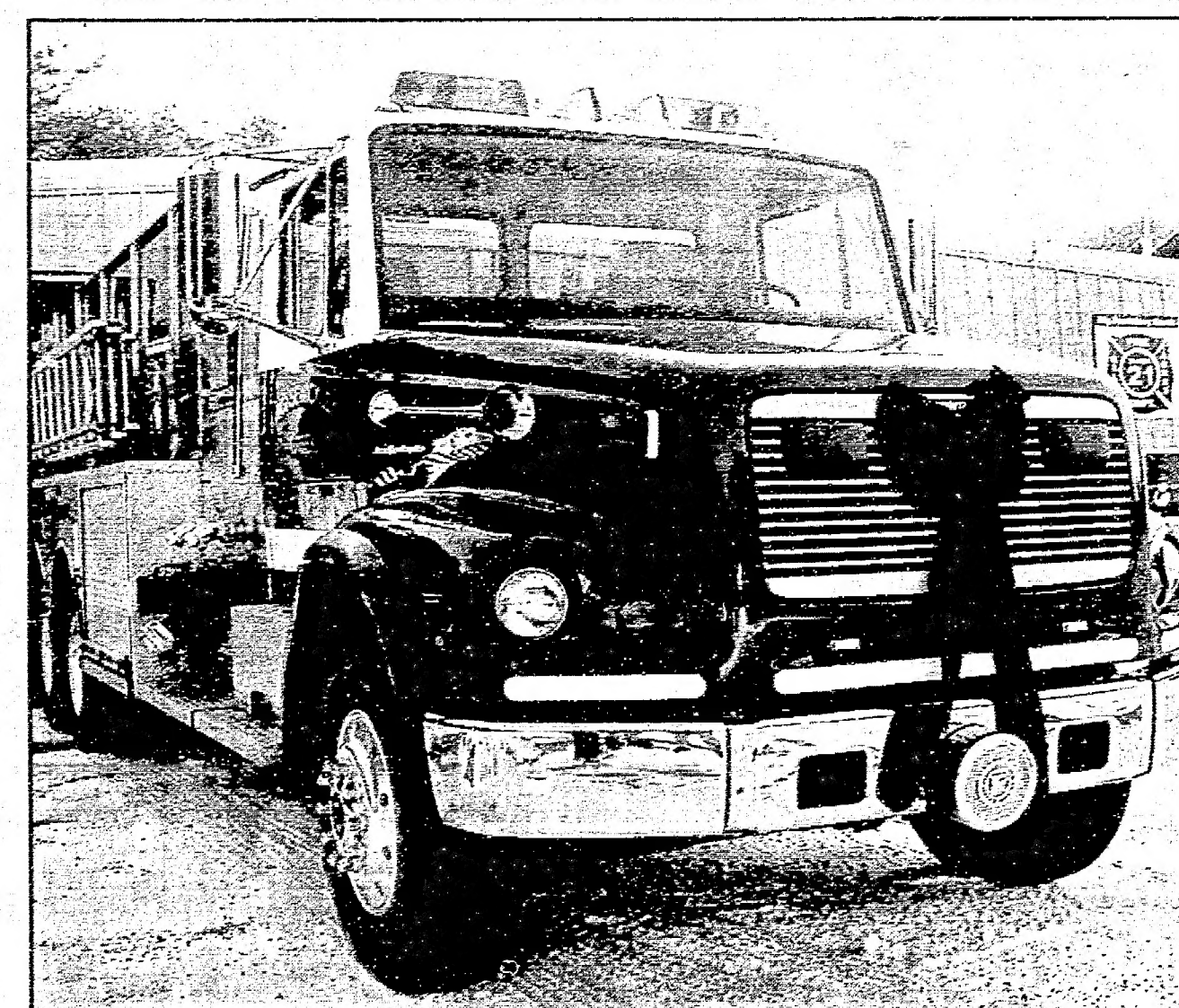
Because it also as a 3,000-gallon tank and three 10-inch dump valves, and 2,000 feet of five-inch supply hose, the fire truck also can be used as a tanker.

"We purchased the vehicle through a 12-year lease with a \$1 buy out at the end of the lease," said fire department president Rick Kulbacki.

"Bell Acres borough will split the cost with the fire department for the new truck."

The new combination fire truck replaces a 1981 American LaFrance pumper and a 1976 Mack tanker.

The 1981 pumper was bought in 1989 from New York City and refurbished before being put into service in 1991. It was used as one of the busiest pumpers in New York City and the world while in service in the



NEW ENGINE is ready for service at any Bell Acres fire emergencies.

Photo by Laura Hallemann

Bronx, said Ray Lang, Bell Acres assistant fire chief.

Although the truck was well utilized by the community, the borough is outgrowing its usage due to new construction of larger homes.

Lang said the 1976 tanker was simply getting "old and tired."

The Big Sewickley Creek Volunteer Fire Department provides services to a population of approximately 1,200 in the six square mile borough of Bell Acres, as well as assists surrounding communities.

FYI: The Borough of Sewickley Municipal Offices will be closed on the following days during the holidays — Friday, Dec. 23, and Monday, Dec. 26, and Friday, Dec. 30, and Monday, Jan. 2.

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GATEWAY PUBLICATIONS (USPS 610-540)

Mini-mountain of animal supplies collected

By Michelle Brokenbek

Staff writer

Santa Claus would be hard-pressed to fulfill a wish list more completely than the good folks around here did when it came to donating items for our Creature Comforts collection.

For the past four weeks, the bags, boxes, totes and sacks have been carried, dragged and carted into the offices of the Pennysaver and Gateway Newspapers.



A mini-mountain of animal supplies and treats heightened daily to be divided and delivered to Animal Friends, Animal Rescue League and Western Pennsylvania Humane Society. The three groups may be the leading local providers for animal respite and adoption but it was surely the people throughout our communities who proved to be the rescuers.

The items received will lessen the financial load at the shelters, especially at the end of the year when capital through fund-raising and grants slows. Our many readers, who almost always made mention of "being an animal-lover" as impetuous to contributions, considered every conceivable need for animal care.

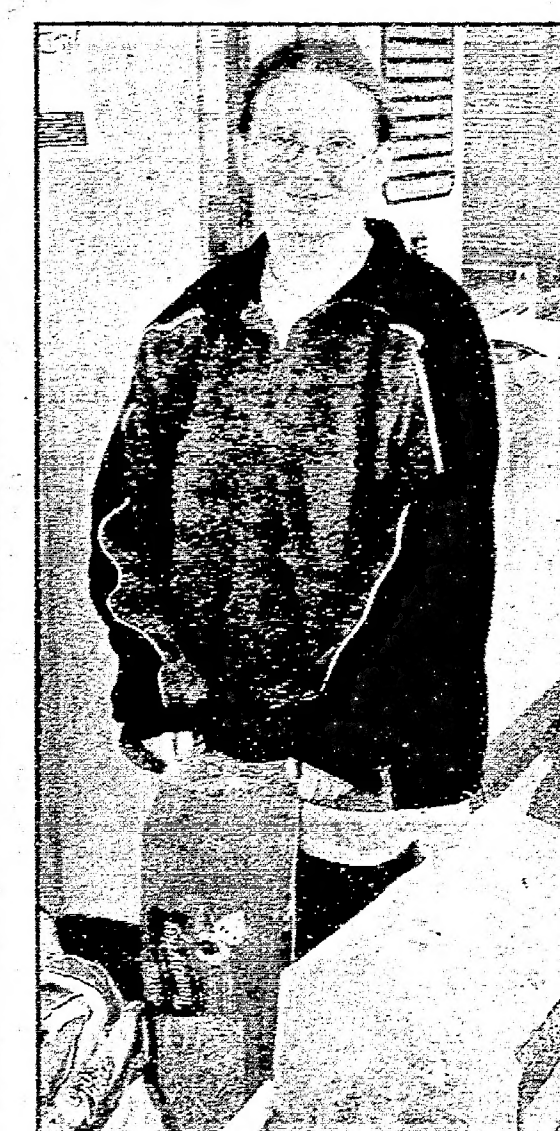
It appears the choice of items was given as much thought as one would apply before heading out to shop for a present for a loved one. On second thought, most donors looked at these unnamed, unmet animals as loved ones. The immediate bond formed with creatures led more than one caller to surmise that the animals "did nothing to end up where they are."

As surrogate caretakers, people went out to buy articles, looked about their house for useful donations and even pulled out long-stowed-away items that have finally found a cause worthy enough for such a contribution.

One donor had unused medical supplies left over



A SELECTION of donations at Gateway Newspapers in Monroeville is surveyed by director of operations Barry Martin. After losing Floppsy, her pet rabbit of nine years, Amanda Lipay of Plum Borough (at right) was grateful to have a place to donate leftover supplies.



animal needs were not considered. Case upon case, can upon can the food came in. Fifty-pound sacks of food were heaved from car trunks to our lobby, as well as smaller bags carried in by passengers on the nearby bus route.

One woman sent a high-priced dry food that her finicky dog turned its nose up at having gotten spoiled by \$8 per pound Dietz & Watson deli instead.

Other donors took the time to make sure their contributions were more of a treat than sheer maintenance chow. How else could you explain the large bag of "Better Than Ears" — peanut butter flavored no less.

All God's creatures were remembered. Bird seed, rabbit pellets, Timothy hay and alfalfa squares will find their way to a shelter.

And the spirit of a sheltered dog or cat will also be engaged through balls, bones, dangling plush mice and even an iridescent shrimp on a stretchy string.

Nearly 60 different feature articles appeared in the past three weeks in Gateway's newspapers.

They focused on the lives of our neighbors who connect with these animals-in-need and serve not only these larger three centers but also countless smaller grassroots rescue organizations and fostering plans. All making a difference and contribution in their own way.

Maybe we can't take all the abandoned, abused or lost home. Maybe we can't nourish each onto good health. And maybe we can't make a dent in overpopulation under the watch of careless pet owners.

But as a group we certainly did lend a big hand and make plenty a tail wag and resonate more than a few purrs. For that we at Gateway say a large "Thank You" to our readers and commend you on your caring nature.

Don't let those good feelings have to wait until another Creature Comforts comes along.

The shelters are here 365 days a year and can always use helpful hands and caring hearts.

FYI

Readers can continue to help project

To further support the Creature Comforts project, contact the following organizations directly.

Volunteers are needed to help at the shelters and for foster care; funds and supplies are needed to support the care; and families are needed to adopt pets.

■ **ANIMAL FRIENDS** • 2643 Penn Ave. • Strip District • Pittsburgh, PA 15222 • 412-

566-2103 • www.animal-friends.org

■ **ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE OF WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA** • 6620 Hamilton Ave. • Point Breeze • Pittsburgh, PA 15206 • 412-661-6452 • www.animalrescue.org

■ **WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA HUMANE SOCIETY** • 1101 Western Ave. • North Side • Pittsburgh, PA 15233-2084 • 412-321-4625 • www.wpahumane.com

from an ailment that thankfully no longer needed IV feedings. Another having lost a diabetic pet found solace in knowing the left-over syringes and supplies may prolong the life an animal under clinic care.

A Robinson woman was enthusiastic about finding a good home for a birdcage that had only temporarily housed a found myna bird before the rightful owner was located.

Creature Comforts enabled people of limited means to search their homes and find unused items that while not of the quality one would give to "people" drives were more than adequate for a non-judgmental shelter.

A neatly organized box of donated used paper bags will be used by the rescue league to hold the paperwork that goes home with adopted pets.

Worn towels, too non-absorbent for a showered human, were not merely dumped into a bag and carted into our offices — instead each was pristinely laundered and carefully folded awaiting new useful longevity.

Money was donated from those wanting the shelters to find the best use.

Many donations were the kind that will enable the organizations to focus on other more direct needs. Pens and note pads with a variety of logos will more than do the job

in the shelters' offices. Reams of printer paper, the kind earned through ink cartridge recycling, are perpetuated as a second meaningful contribution.

A 4-foot stack of carpet squares long in storage from a former business will now find daily use cushioning and comforting a caged creature.

Larger articles like TVs, VCRs, refrigerators and a washing machine, which surely would have fetched a few bucks in a want ad, instead will be used to play training films, to preserve perishable supplies and to provide shelter maintenance and upkeep.

This is not to say that direct

OPINION

December 21, 2005

What is your favorite Christmas song?



MATTHEW BOICE
Washington, Pa.

"Depends on what mood I'm in. I guess one of my most favorites is the 'Chipmunk Christmas Song.'"



SUSIE ABERCROMBIE
Sewickley

"The Christmas Song."



LUCY WILLIAMS
Sewickley

"Rudolph the Red-nosed Reindeer."



ANNEELIZABETH HAGUE
Sewickley

"The Christmas Song."



JILL CHEETHAM-MITCHELL
Avalon

"Oh, Holy Night."



See how to connect with your neighbors via Letters to the Editor on Page 8.

EDITORIAL Real gifts come without fancy wrap

Christmas celebrates the birth of Christ — God's gift to the world. Even for those who do not believe in Christ, there is no denying the miracle of life.

Throughout our life, we encounter numerous people. While our actions may focus on just one person, our decision can indirectly impact many.

The greatest example of one person affecting the lives of many is George Bailey, the main character in "It's A Wonderful Life."

While the character is fictitious, the theme is real. The film has been a holiday favorite for almost 60 years — and with good reason.

Who doesn't want to be like George Bailey when he runs through the streets of Bedford Falls and wishes everyone a Merry Christmas? For Bailey, he needed an angel to learn that even without money, he is a rich man and he really did make a difference in the world.

Christmas is not about who received the most expensive gift or who gave the best presents. What really comforts us is having someone to share the day, even an hour.

Hurricanes Katrina and Rita have left many homeless. Throughout the ordeal, victims just wanted to be with loved ones. Material things didn't matter. They just wanted to live, with the hope of reuniting with family and friends.

Through the generosity of people



they will never meet, hurricane victims are finding the courage to start a new life — one that could benefit others for many years to come.

For others less fortunate, receiving a gift or meal doesn't solve all of their problems. But for one day, that donation or special visit will give someone hope for a better tomorrow.

In the movie "The Polar Express," the boy struggles with the thought that Santa Claus is not real.

The conductor tells the boy that "Seeing is believing, but sometimes the most real things in the world are

the things we can't see."

Children see Santa as having a white beard and red suit. In reality, Santa can be us on any given day. We do not need to wear a red suit or deliver presents. Our gift comes from the heart.

One person can make a difference in the world — just as an infant did more than 2,000 years ago in Bethlehem.

Merry Christmas.

By Jim Spezialetti
Gateway Editor

December 21, 2005

OPINION

Sewickley Herald Page 7

Mrs. Claus comes to Sewickley

Dear Sewickley,

The children of the Sewickley area are kind, thoughtful and lots of fun.

I was invited by the Laughlin Center to visit on Light-Up Night in the Village and meet more than 100 children from the area.

We spent our time, one child, one family or one group of friends at a time, in warm conversation about a surprising wide range of topics.

Rather than reciting lists of what they wanted for Christmas, many of your beautiful children gave me messages for Santa, expressed concerns for others, asked questions and told me about their best friends.

"Please ask Santa to tell the other reindeer to be nice to Rudolph," whispered a young boy. "You know how they play those mean reindeer games."

"Just tell Santa 'Merry Christmas' for me and my brother, too," a blue-eyed, five-year old said with heartfelt sincerity.

A boy's desire for a telescope led to further questions. "Why do you and Santa like to live at the North Pole?"

Well, I told him, the sky is so clear at night, you can see the constellations perfectly. Santa and I stretch out in the snow on our backs and just look up in wonder.

"I would like three presents."

Why three?

"You know, like the Wise Men," my young visitor quickly responded.

My next visitor hopped up on the bench and told me he saw me on television yesterday.

How did I do? I asked.

"You were great."

A little girl with short blond hair spent her time carefully instructing me on the way to build a creche, using paper and popsicle sticks.

"Everytime you do something nice," she explained, "you put a piece of string in the cradle ... to make it soft."

The creche lesson ended when a peanut (that looks like a baby) is placed in the cradle on Christmas Day.

Two girls dressed in pink sat on either side of me.

My helper took two pictures, one for each of the best friends. They explained that pink was their favorite color and when they colored together, pink was the crayon of choice.

Another girl talked about the games she liked to play. Her favorite was dominoes with her dad.

A sophisticated boy of seven or eight mentioned that he would like games for his "system." But I wouldn't need to tell Santa since the boy already typed up the message and faxed it in.

When I asked about his sys-

tem, I received a complete and articulate explanation.

A delicate three year old with long brown hair quietly told me she would love a dolly for Christmas.

"And what will you name her?"

"Dolly," she replied.

She appeared a little worried when she asked if I thought ask Santa to hold her family's presents for a few days.

"We are going away for Christmas."

I was touched when a young boy asked if I thought Santa could bring him a statue of Mother Theresa "because she was so good."

My evening with your wonderful children ended with two groups. Six college women came to the Laughlin Center to have their picture taken with Mrs. Claus for their college dorm rooms and finally a group of young male athletes hammed it up for the camera to make their mothers happy.

The evening was wonderful and so are your children.

Merry Christmas wishes,
Mrs. S. Claus



Mrs. Claus and Emma Poppenberg

For more letters to the editor, see Page 8.

AGENDA

■ Aleppo: 3rd Monday, 7 p.m., 100 North Dr.;
■ Bell Acres: 2nd Monday, 7 p.m., Big Sew. Creek Firehall;

■ Edgeworth: 3rd Tuesday, 8 p.m., Municipal Building, Beaver Road;

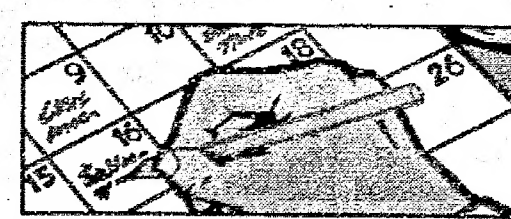
■ Glenfield: 2nd Tuesday, 7 p.m., at Riverside Park;

■ Haysville: 2nd Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., 34 South Ave.;

■ Leet: 2nd Monday, 7:30, Municipal Building;

■ Leetsdale: 2nd Thursday, 7 p.m., Municipal Building, Broad St.;

■ Osborne: 3rd Tuesday, 7:30, Osborne Elementary;



■ Sewickley COW: 2nd Tuesday, 7:30;

■ Sewickley: 3rd Monday, 7:30 p.m., both in Sewickley Borough Building;

■ Sewickley Heights: 3rd Monday, 4:30, Borough Hall;

■ Sewickley Hills: 2nd Monday, 7:30, Fairhill Rec. Building;

■ Quaker Valley School Board: Legislative meeting every 4th Tuesday, 8 p.m., QVMS.

Gateway Newspapers

Additional copies of **Honor, Duty, Sacrifice** are available for schools and area organizations. The special publication features first-hand accounts of American military actions.

Honor, Duty, Sacrifice



For additional copies of **Honor, Duty, Sacrifice**, call 412-856-7400, ext. 178

*Merry Christmas from
Dr. Chips, Janet,
Carol, Gini & Rhonda*

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BEST DENTIST**

ON TAXES

Deadline nears for property tax rebate

Pennsylvania seniors and people with disabilities have until Saturday, Dec. 31, to take advantage of the 2004 Property Tax/Rebate, announced State Rep. Mark Mustio (R-Allegheny).

Eligible participants can receive a rebate of up to \$500 based on rent or property taxes paid in 2004.

The program benefits eligible Pennsylvanians who are 65 years or older, widows and widowers 50 years or older, and those 18 or older with disabilities.

The household eligibility income limit is \$15,000, excluding 50 percent of Social Security, Supplemental Security Income and Railroad Retirement Tier 1 benefits.

The Property Tax/Rent Rebate program is one of four programs supported by the Pennsylvania Lottery, which dedicates its proceeds to support programs for older Pennsylvanians. Since the program began in 1971, more than \$3.09 billion has been paid to qualified applicants.

In 2003, 331,095 claims were paid, totaling \$126.6 million.

Residents are reminded to provide all the necessary income, property tax or rental information required to process claims quickly and accurately.

Property Tax/Rent Rebate claim forms are available by contacting either of Rep. Mustio's district offices at 412-749-4727 (Sewickley) or 412-262-3780 (Moon Township), or by visiting the Pennsylvania Department of Revenue Web site at www.revenue.state.pa.us.

GOIN' HOME



ON ITS way to becoming beautiful is a Christmas tree purchased at the Mendicino's lot on Thorn Street, Sewickley. Pat secures a customer's purchase. Christmas trees have been sold at this lot since 1972. Photo by Laura Hallemann

Celebrate Christmas at St. Philip's in Moon.

Are you looking for a church that's alive? Join us for a real-life message that will touch your soul, a worship band that will move and energize you, genuine and gentle people who would like to know you. Dress casual, bring the kids, and let the collection plate pass you by.

Join Our Holiday Celebrations:

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services, Saturday December 24 at 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, and 9:00 pm.

Christmas Day, Sunday December 25, no services.

Regular Services Including New Year's Eve and New Year's Day are Saturday evenings at 6:00 pm, and Sundays at 7:45, 9:00, and 10:30 am.

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REGION

Group elects new officers

LEADers Referral Networking Group, located in Moon Township and founded in 2002, has elected the new officers for 2006.

They are —

Robert C. DeWitt, Ph.D. (president), principal of Partners For Performance

Jill Stehnach (vice president), realtor, Prudential Preferred Realty

Rodney W. Deloe, CPA (treasurer), Deloe & Sommers, LLP, Certified Public Accountants

Jennifer Shulin (secretary), major account executive, ComDoc

Donna P. Barger (marketing, director), president, Sewickley Graphics & Design Inc.

Dr. Daniel DiCesaro, D.C. (social chairman), chiropractor, DiCesaro Spine & Sport

LEADers' mission is to establish a business referral organization built on the pillars of honesty, trust and good will. The organization encourages members to dedicate themselves to assist fellow members in pursuing successful business opportunities.

If you are interested in more information on LEADers or would like to attend a meeting as a guest, visit www.leadersgrp.com.

DO YOU HEAR WHAT I HEAR?



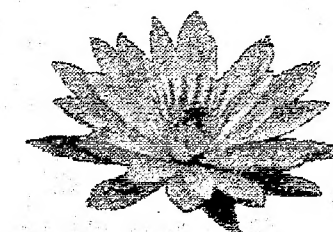
LAST WEDNESDAY night in Sewickley was filled with song as the Mistletoe March wound around town, raising money for Make-a-Wish Foundation. (At left) three members of the Quaker Valley High School Barbershop Quartet harmonized at Wolcott Park. The girls are (from left) Lacey Gerle, Laura Clapper and Laura West. Missing from the photo was Danielle Evansky. Last minute shopping is still possible in Sewickley Village. The shops will be open late tonight (Wednesday). The horse-drawn carriage rides and the Clock Tower tours continue.

Photos by Tim Edmonson

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 - 8 pm Candlelight Service
 - 10 pm Candlelight and Holy Communion Service
- Christmas Eve Services - Dec. 24 - 6, 8, 10 pm
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Christmas Eve Candlelight Services Orchard Hill Church

December 21 7:00 pm
December 22 7:00 pm
December 24 5:00 & 7:00 pm
December 24 3:00, 5:00, 7:00 & 9:00 pm

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The lighter side of life

WORDS FROM THE FRONT



CPL. DEREK Lang (above), stationed in Iraq, is due back in the states in April. Derek's father, Ray Lang (at left), looks over items that have been collected by family, friends and co-workers to be sent to his son and other soldiers in Iraq.

Photo by Laura Halleman

Deployed Marine reflects on elections in Iraq

By Laura Halleman
Staff writer

"I'm a Marine serving in Iraq much like many others, so there is no real way to describe what life is like over here," says Cpl. Derek Lang via e-mail. "I guess you'd just have to experience it."

From his e-mails to his parents, Ray and Kathy Lang, to his e-mails I received for this article, it is glaringly apparent that Lang is grounded and modest about his time in Iraq.

A resident of Bell Acres, Lang, 24, is a Marine reservist called for duty in Iraq over the summer. He is stationed near the Syrian border.

The Bell Acres community picnic this summer was an especially emotional time for this tight-knit town.

Each year the picnic is organized by Big Sewickley Creek Volunteer Marine and American flag ornaments.

Derek, who is captain and vice president of the fire department, had already left for Iraq, but he certainly wasn't forgotten then or now.

"There are people at my wife's work that collect things to be sent out to Derek," says Derek's father, Ray Lang. "The fire department also collects items to ship over to him."

In another e-mail, "Last night we got IDF (indirect fire or mortars). They hit pretty close. We were all cleaning the barracks and the building shook so hard, all I could do was think to throw my hands in the air and yell 'whoooooohaa' like it was some kind of roller coaster ... Hell, what else can you do?"

Derek's father keeps him informed on the new truck the fire department recently bought and the wonders of e-mail make the time away from home a little easier — it seems.

For Christmas, Derek's mother, Kathy, has decorated their home. Dangling from the trees are Marine and American flag ornaments.

In the corner of the Langs' living room hangs a photo of Derek in his dress uniform.

There is also an American flag, neatly folded, that sits in a case on the wall. The flag was presented to Derek's grandmother at his grandfather's funeral, but on that day, she turned and asked that it be given to Derek.

"Things we need are cans of tuna or chicken, those little packets of drink mix, Nutri-Grain bars or power bars (things easy to eat on convoys), baby wipes, and magazines," says Derek in another e-mail.

Often, Derek is unable to send out e-mails. This past week was one of those cases, due to the Iraqi parliamentary elections that took place on Thursday.

On Saturday, however, he wrote. "I saw on the news that a recent poll shows 90 percent of Iraqis want us out ... with only partial stories and little reporting on the good that we've done, the public gets a distorted view of the war."

Upon writing this e-mail Derek had just returned from time on a security detachment out in the cities

to guard engineers who had been readying for the elections.

"Most would expect us to enter these towns with a huge threat of gunfire and attacks, with the civilians hating us."

"But it was quite the opposite. As we entered these towns, the Iraqis greeted us with waves and smiles as we set up in the street."

Not once did the Marines have to consider raising their weapons, he says.

Derek says the Iraqis approached him and other soldiers and all parties tried as best they could to carry on a conversation.

The Iraqis even helped to set up and tear down the polling sites, and the Iraqi army played a big part in the security of these towns.

"The Iraqi people we encountered last week were proud to be voting because now they have a choice in their government."

"They now enjoy so much we take for granted each day."

THE GIVING SEASON

Union Aid board, contributors wrap up Christmas

By Kate Canan

Staff writer

The Union Aid Society of Sewickley distributed hundreds of gifts to needy children in the Quaker Valley area last week.

The privately funded agency holds an annual "Gifts for Kids" project, when they ask Quaker Valley schools, hospitals, churches, local businesses and groups, and private donors to contribute by dropping off presents or adopting a family for the holidays.

Project chairperson Car-

roll Logsdon has been part of Union Aid for 23 years and loves to see the community spring into action.

"They're wonderful people and we're hoping people are willing to share so their neighbors will not go without," Logsdon said. "We only have to ask and people will step forward."

Sherri Leifman has been director of the agency since August 2004 and enjoys lending a helping hand in exchange for knowing children are having a good holiday.



"TIS THE season to be caring. Children will have lots of presents to open this Christmas because of Union Aid Society of Sewickley. With the mountains of gifts are (from left) Eleanor Friedman, Union Aid Society board president; Carroll Logsdon, holiday project chair; Sherri Leifman, executive director; and Gretchen Burnham, committee member.

This year, the agency has helped support 44 families and 105 children for the holidays.

Union Aid makes sure the children get some of their favorite items by asking the parents to write requests on a wish list. The lists are then distributed to volunteering companies and donors who go shopping.

In just weeks, rooms at the Union Aid headquarters in the Sewickley Borough Building were filled from top to bottom with clothes, hats, gloves, socks, rollerblades, bowling balls, bicycles, cleaning supplies, Christmas decorations, blankets and more.

Now all of the presents are wrapped and waiting to be opened by the children on Christmas day.

While this particular project is just for children, some donors will go above and beyond, getting presents for

the parents or putting in gift certificates.

This season, all of the children will find 10-12 gifts under their trees, and most will never know that their presents didn't come from their family.

This is because Union Aid requests donors leave their presents unwrapped.

"What's nice is that parents can pick their presents up during the day and the kids don't necessarily need to know their parents participated in a charitable organization," Leifman said.

"The parents wrap the presents themselves. It makes them feel a little bit better about themselves, I think."

Families in need receive help by completing a financial aid form, and Union Aid determines their eligibility. Because the agency is privately funded, they are better able to serve the less fortunate

because they are not forced to follow rigid federal rules and regulations.

"A lot of people really get lost in the shuffle and people really have a terrible time. It's really a shame," Leifman commented.

"There are a lot of people who make just a little too much to qualify for (governmental) financial aid."

Union Aid is supported by annual appeals within the community it has served from more than 100 years.

"We're making Christmas special for friends and neighbors who, at this time, need help," Logsdon explained.

"Sometimes people we help come back and help others. (People) learn to share and do community service and it kind of stays with them."

For more information on Union Aid, call 412-741-9240.

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HOLLY DAY HELPERS



WOLCOTT PARK looks better than ever. The park was completely rejuvenated. New plantings were organized by Traudel Machatzke (left) and Erika Wehmeier of the Trowel and Error Garden Club, with financing provided by the Sewickley Civic Garden Council and the Memorial Tree Fund. One of the new focal points is an American Holly, its rich crop of red fruit looks very festive with the snow cover. And while spring seems still far away, several hundred newly planted bulbs will create a show, once winter has departed.

WHAT'S NEW

Gallerie J Deux opens in Sewickley

By Cathy Kelly

Herald contributor

There is a new one-of-a-kind merchant on Beaver Street, adding to Sewickley's lively art gallery scene.

John Gailey of Gallerie J Deux can be found in the back of Abercrombie Interiors, the established Asian furnishings store at the corner of Beaver and Walnut streets.

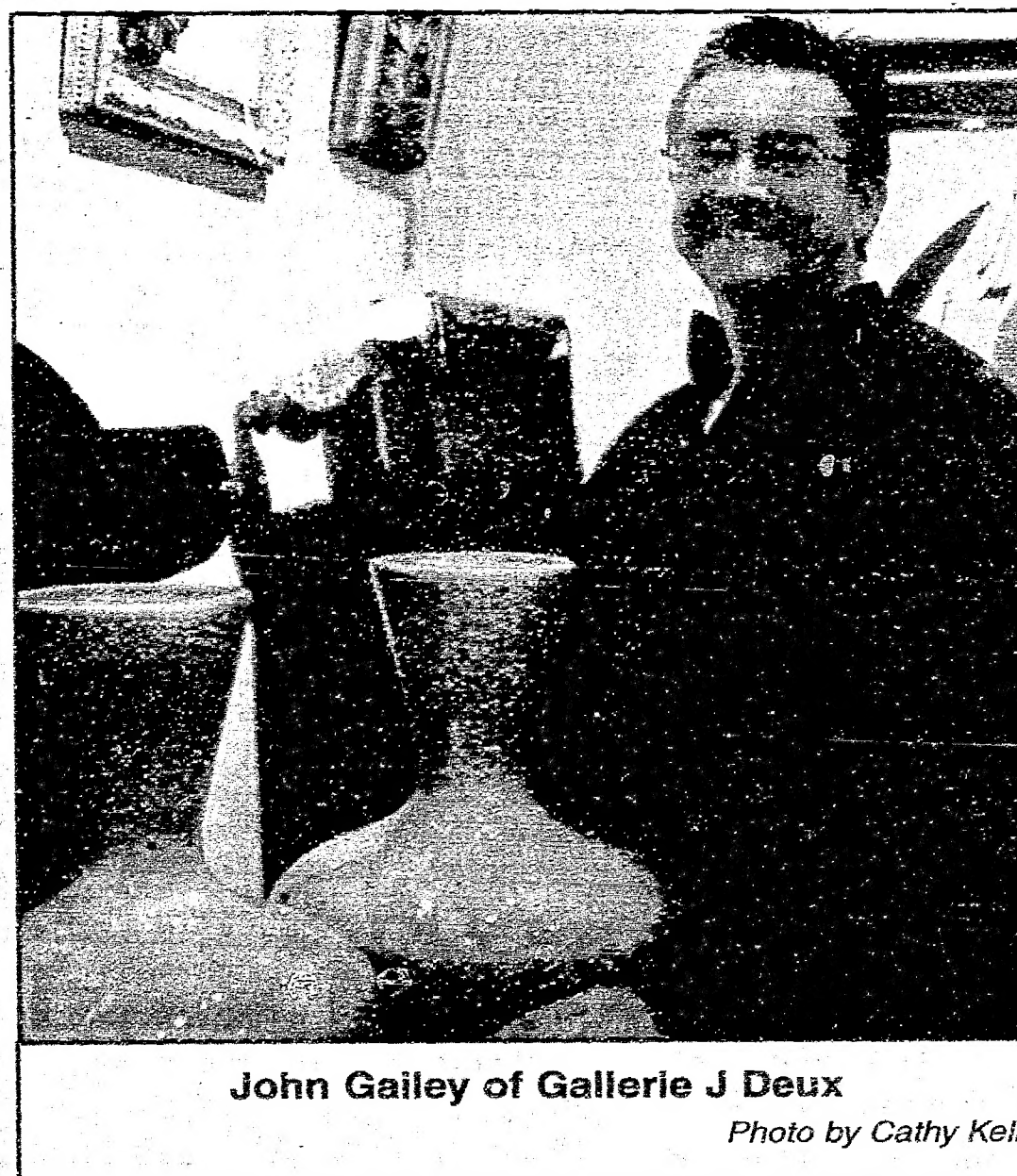
Gailey, a native of Franklin Park, is an avid collector of paintings and lithographs, two signed by famous artists Joan Miro and Marc Chagall, and an eclectic assortment of antiques.

A striking monotype of Heinz Hall in pastel tones by Diane Haber was purchased from the estate of the artist.

Three bold oil paintings by Peruvian Yvonne Mora have generated much interest by those who have stopped in.

From saffish to the root beer barrel, baby cradle, antique bingo tumbler, snooker table and cello, there much to see at Gallerie J Deux.

Steven Schick Jr., owner of



John Gailey of Gallerie J Deux

Photo by Cathy Kelly

Abercrombie Interiors since 1972, hopes Sewickley shoppers will visit Gailey's collection during the holidays.

The gallery is open during Abercrombie Interiors' hours, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Saturday.

Christmas Eve Candelight Services

5:00 Family
8:00 Traditional

6:30 Modern
10:00 Communion Served

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Last Minute Shopper

Little things you need to know for a Merry Christmas

By Gary Brown
Copley News Service

A special day is coming up and we'd like to tell you a few things about how to celebrate it. But first, let's

talk about National Eggnog Day. It's Dec. 24.

The gourmet coffee maker FilterFresh, which just happens to have intro-



duced an eggnog-flavored coffee, notes that eggnog literally means "eggs inside a small cup."

"Some experts believe that the 'nog' came from the word 'noggin' which was a small, wooden, carved mug," said an online press release from FilterFresh.

The coffee maker gave other facts:

"George Washington was a huge fan of eggnog."

"Eggnog originated in England."

"Other past nicknames have included egg-flip and egg-hot."

"A general recipe for Eggnog includes: eggs, sugar, milk and rum."

With that, however, we should cut you off. We have to discuss your celebration of that other holiday we were talking about, Christmas, which fortunately is prime time for drinking eggnog anyway.

XMAS ISN'T BAD

According to the Web site www.purplelion.com, the oft-maligned term

Xmas isn't really disrespectful to the meaning of the holiday.

"X is the first letter of the Greek word for Christ — Xristos — and for the early Christians, most of whom spoke and wrote Greek, the word signified 'Christ's Mass.' As the centuries passed, however, fewer and fewer people understood ancient Greek. They thought the 'X' had some pagan meaning and that the word 'Xmas' showed disrespect."

So have a happy Xmas, and don't let spelling spoil your holiday.

A FINAL WACKY WORD

"Due to time zones, Santa has 31 hours to deliver gifts," notes one of the "Wacky Christmas Facts" offered up by the Web site www.20ishparents.com.

"This means that he would have to visit 832 homes each second!" He probably wouldn't have time for eggnog.

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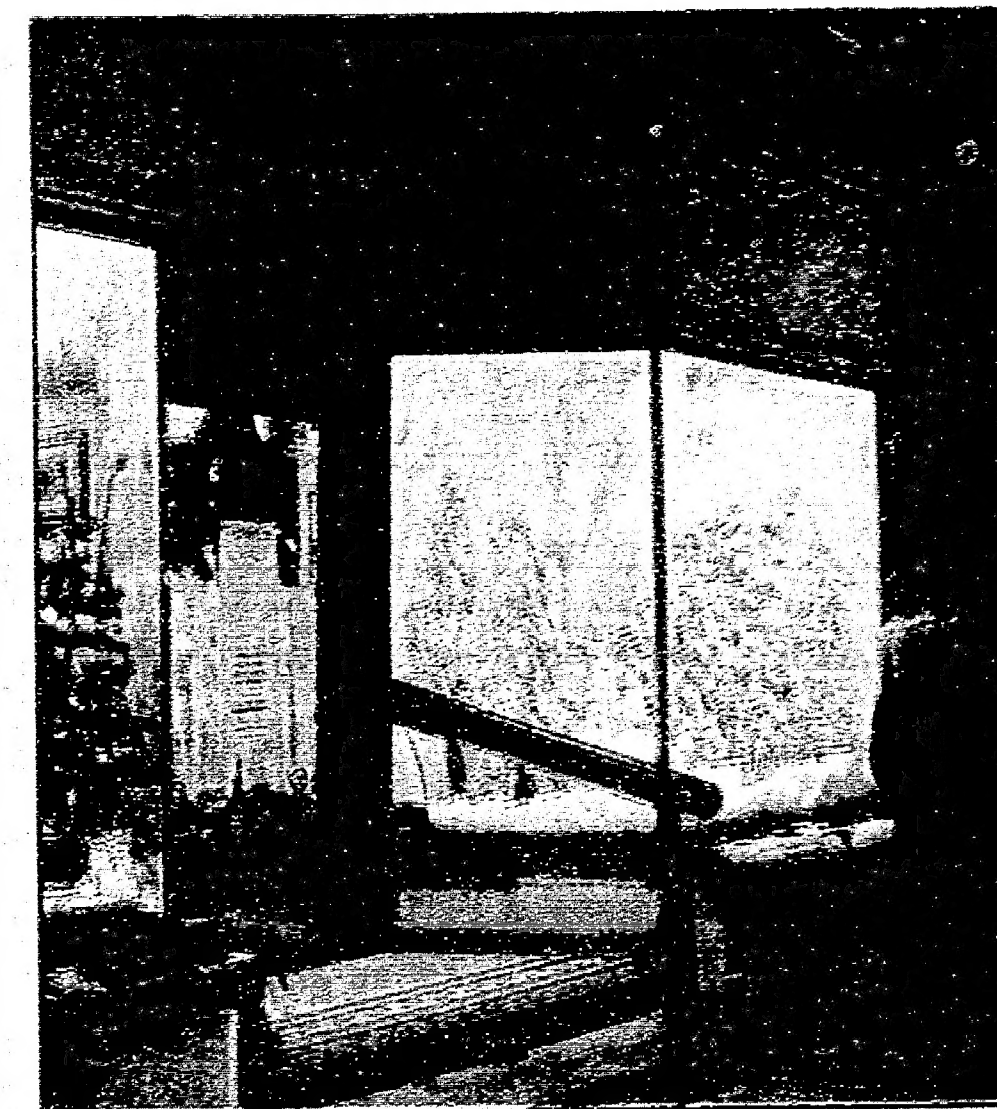
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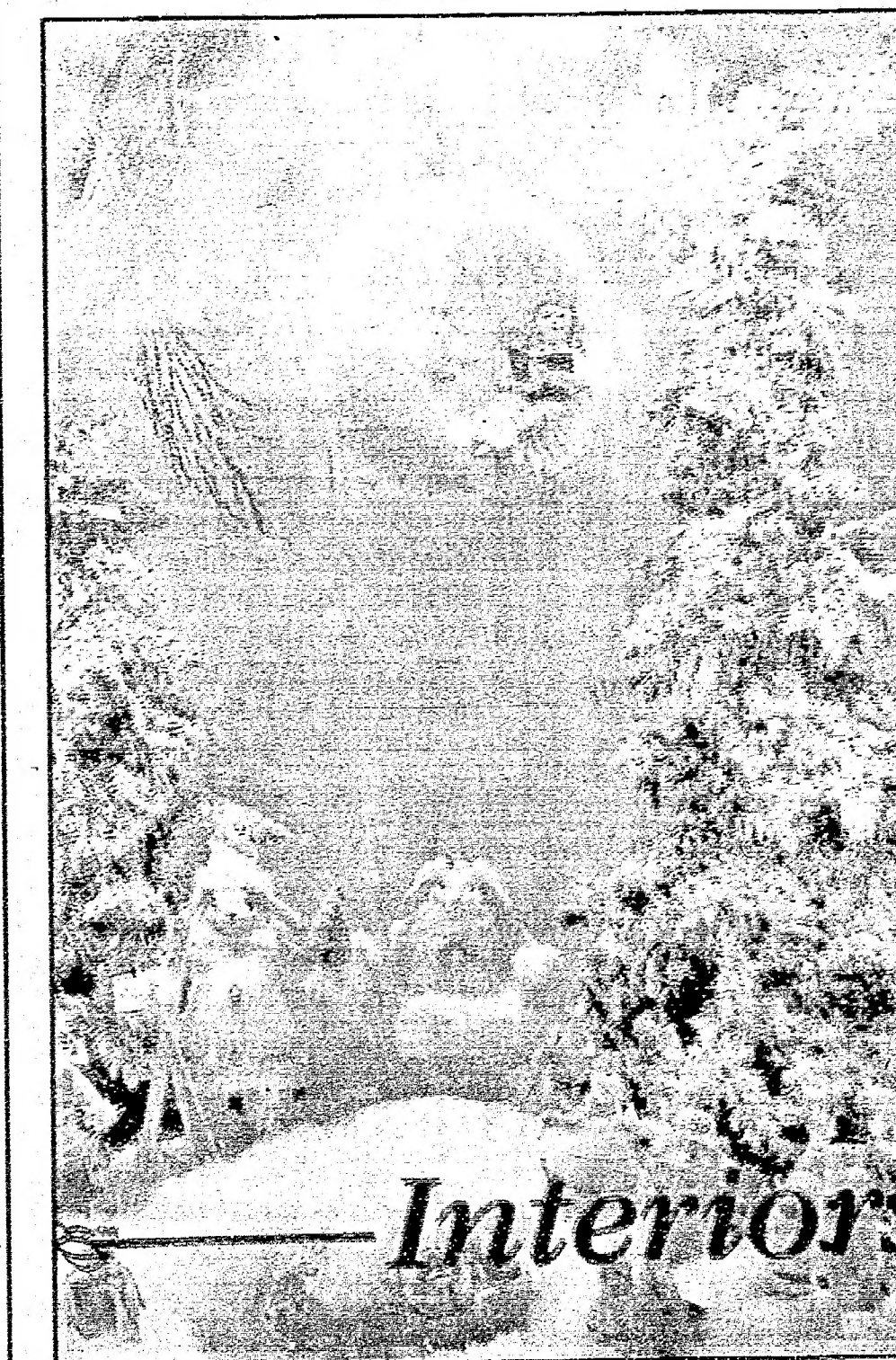
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VILLAGE VIEW



THE CHEERS windows on Beaver Street are a wonderland landscape of creatures celebrating Christmas. The display took first place in this year's Sewickley Valley Chamber of Commerce's "Best Window" contest.



Photos by Tim Edmonson

Saltworks performs

Saltworks Theatre Company will perform "The Book of Jonah" on Friday, Jan. 27, at 7:30 p.m. at Orchard Hill Church on Brandt School Road in Wexford.

The Old Testament book, a timeless story of

repentance, redemption, and forgiveness, will come to life on the stage with culturally authentic costumes, props and music.

Cost is \$15, which includes a gourmet dessert reception, and benefits the Young Actor's Studio.

For tickets, call 724-934-2820, Ext. 204.

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WINTER FUN



LITTLE HAYDEN Dobsch, 3, of Leetsdale enjoyed the sledding right in his own backyard last week. The cyclone fence kept him safe and made a perfect frame for his happy face.

Photo by Laura Halleman

UPCOMING

Library hosts adult classes

The Knitting Circle will meet Monday, Jan. 2, at 7 p.m. in Sewickley Public Library, Thorn Street, Sewickley.

January's topic is "Creating cables" with handouts available for distribution.

The knitting group welcomes knitters of all ages and skill levels.

Beginners, bring a pair of size-8 needles; experienced knitters may bring their current projects.

Donations of yarn or needles are always appreciated.

• Mid-Day Matinee will show "Under the Tuscan Sun"

on Tuesday, Jan. 3, at 2 p.m.

• The Biography Book Club will meet Monday, Jan. 9, at 7 p.m. in the Colbert Room.

This month's selection is "The Color of Water: A Black Man's Tribute to His White Mother" by James McBride.

Request a copy at the reference desk.

• The Elderhostel Conversation Salon will meet Tuesday, Jan. 10, from 10 a.m. to noon in the Colbert Room to discuss current events and other topics of interest. The group will be led by a moderator.

To enroll, call Elderhostel at 412-422-2060, Ext. 234.

• Mid-Day Matinee will show "Bread and Tulips" on Tuesday, Jan. 10, at 2 p.m.

• Getting Started in Investing: The REIT Market will meet Wednesday, Jan. 11, at 7 p.m.

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PROFILE

Welcome to butlering in the 21st Century

By Eleanor Harris

Contributing writer

What's a good-looking 24-year-old with a degree in criminology from Penn State doing as a butler.

A butler ...

Thought that was a thing of the past — part of the entourage of the rich and famous, especially in England.

Not anymore. Butlering is alive, well and as closeby as Farmington, Pa. In fact, Nemacolin Woodlands' Falling Rock boutique hotel has a staff of 10 butlers.

And Michael Hiltabidel of the Pittsburgh suburbs is one of them ... and has been since the 42-room hotel opened in the fall of 2004.

His original plan to work for the FBI went by the wayside when he had the opportunity to become a butler.

Michael was already familiar with the hospitality field since he had worked at summer resorts during high school and been a doorman and valet at Nemacolin during college.

Recruited, interviewed and selected for butler training prior to the opening of Falling Rock, Michael accepted the challenge because he liked the developing niche in the hotel/resort business of providing optimum service.

Instruction, however, was not a quick seminar.

Instead, it was intense training — six weeks, 12 hours a day, six days a week.

The instructor was Steven Ferry, a retired English butler from Clearwater, Fla., who has authored books on the art of butlering.

And an art it is. Michael and his classmates learned everything from emotional tone scale — how to assess guests' feelings so they can be served appropriately — to how to walk, speak, dress.

He had to learn the product, Falling Rock, the proper way to draw a bath, where to put the towels, how to pour a glass of wine, unpack and pack suitcases.

The butler class even visited several hotels in Washington, D.C., and a private estate there where the resident butler told of the ins and outs of the profession.

When Falling Rock opened for the 84 Lumber 2004 classic, the butlers were ready.



BUTLERS, MICHAEL Hiltabidel and Corinne Lehman, are ready to greet guests.

rooms, explains how everything works from the European soaking tub to the flatbed television and assists with any needs — such as press clothes, shine shoes, run errands, make spa and dinner reservations.

At night, the guests personal butler provides candlelight and salts for the bath, turns down the bed, leaves a treat and in the morning brings juice and coffee.

In short, the butler caters to the guests' needs — be it an appointment for a golf lesson, a shuttle in the Hummer, a private dinner or party in a room or a tour of the hotel.

With two butlers assigned to each room, there is 24-hour room service.

The morning shift is 6 a.m. to 3 p.m.; evening, 3 to 11 p.m.; and through the night, 11 to 7. It's a group effort, Michael explains.

The personal touch is what he enjoys most. "We live in a world of numbers today. Here, you are not a room number; our guests are people. We know you by name."

As a result, there are so many repeat visits, some have come 15 to 20 times in a year. Michael says guests tell him they like to go where they are recognized and remembered by name.

And Michael likes the compliments from guests, such as "We'd like to take you home with us," "Could you teach my husband to press shirts like you do?" or "Can you help me with my golf slice, too?"

The peace and quiet at Falling Rock, overlooking the 18th green at Mystic Rock golf course, is another attraction.

Lionel Ritchie, who stayed overnight while an entertainer for Nemacolin's Royal Reception, commented on the serenity of Falling Rock.

Other famous guests have been Robin Williams, Vijay Singh, Huey Lewis, Robin Leech, Phil Mickelson and Duchess of York Sara Ferguson, who had dinner there.

"Falling Rock is a family, a well-oiled machine," says Michael proudly.

"Everyone gets the same service. Guests are to look at the hotel as their home."

And Michael and the others as their personal butler.

Butlering is alive at Nemacolin Woodlands' Falling Rock

Their goal — make each guest's every experience most memorable.

The butler sets the tone as the first person whom guests meet enter-

ing Falling Rock. There is no front desk.

He or she (there are five female butlers) takes the guests to their

PLAUDITS

Flaherty takes to KC stage

David T. Flaherty, son of Linda Flaherty of Sewickley, played the role of the Sea Captain in Kenyon College's recent production of Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night."

"Twelfth Night" has many of the elements common to the Elizabethan romantic comedy, including the devices of mistaken identity, separated twins and gender-crossing disguise.

Its plot revolves around overcoming obstacles to true love.

A graduate of Sewickley Academy, Flaherty is a junior majoring in history at Kenyon, a private liberal arts college in central Ohio.



CLASS OF 2017

MEMBERS OF Kelly Gary's first grade class at Sewickley Academy are (first row, from left) Ryan, Natalia, McKayla, Ally, Mary, Emily and Owais; (back row, from left) Cole, Justin, Sarah, Carly, Dedan, Luke, Nina, Brennan and Teddy.

HONORS

Boice earns PMEA award

Matthew Boice, a music teacher at Quaker Valley High School for 10 years, has been awarded the 2005-2006 Pennsylvania Music Educators Association (PMEA) District One Citation of Excellence.

The award, given to a music educator in each of the 12 PMEA districts, recognizes and rewards excellence in music education.

District One consists of the counties of Allegheny, Fayette, Greene, Washington and Westmoreland counties.

Boice will be honored at the PMEA state conference in Valley Forge in March of 2006.

Boice is the second QV music teacher to receive the District One citation in the last three years. Christine Burgh, elementary school music and strings instrument teacher, received the District One Citation of Excellence for 2003-2004.

AT WATSON

Weekly classes offered

The Watson Institute offers weekly social skills training for children and teens with autism spectrum disorders. Parents are invited to participate in the parent therapy groups, conveniently offered at the same time as the social skills group.

Led by a Watson clinician, the parent therapy groups troubleshoot and discuss problems shared by the group, including parental stress.

During the meetings, the parents set up opportunities for the children to practice new skills introduced in the groups and guide the selection of the weekly agenda of the children's group.

To learn more, call Watson Psychological Services at 412-749-2889. To enroll, visit www.thewatsoninstitute.org/IntakeForm.jsp.

HAPPENINGS

Church services open to public

St. Paul's

Christmas Eve services at St. Paul's will begin at 5 p.m. on Saturday with a family service.

This worship will include a children's sermon and blessing of the children.

The 11 p.m. service will feature several choral selections by the adult chancel choir.

Both services include a candles and carols ceremony.

A Christmas Day service will be held at 10 a.m. and will include lessons and carols.

The church is located at 616 Washington St., Sewickley. The Rev. Thomas E. Moog is pastor.

For more information, call 412-741-8484.

At First Church

First Church of Christ, Scientist, Sewickley, holds its Sunday service and Sunday school at 10:30 a.m.

The Lesson-Sermon for Sunday, Dec. 25, is titled "Christian Science" and will open with a quotation from Romans: "... How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace and bring glad tidings of good things!"

Wednesday evening testimony meetings are held at 7:30 p.m.

The Reading Room is open Tuesday and Friday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The church is located at 222 Beaver St., Sewickley.

At St. Brendan's

St. Brendan's Episcopal Church will have two Christmas Eve services.

The first will be at 5 p.m. with a "Simple Gifts of Christmas" children's pageant and Holy Eucharist.

A traditional candlelight Holy Eucharist service will be held at 10 p.m.

On Christmas Day, there will be a 9 a.m. service with the Holy Eucharist and carols.

St. Brendan's is located at 2365 McAleer Road, Franklin Park. For more information, call 412-364-5974 or visit www.stbrendans.com.

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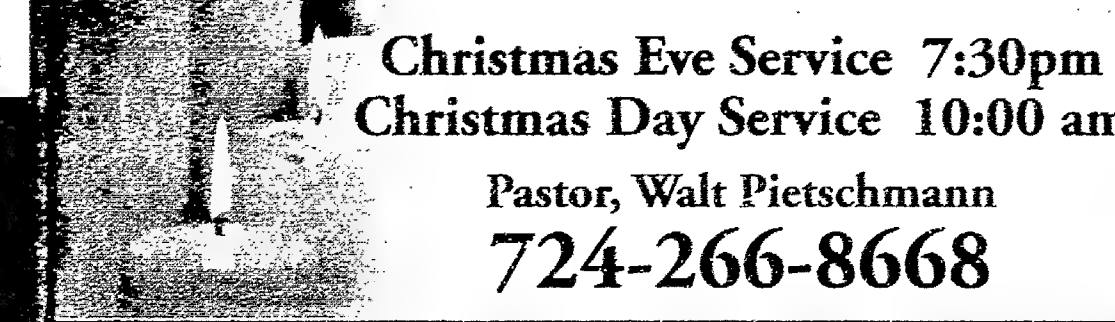
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IN MEMORY

Eleanor Frissell, volunteer

On Dec. 17, 2005, Eleanor Susan "Lynn" (Lindley) Frissell, 90, died.

She was a 40-year resident of Sewickley.

She was the mother of Lynn (Darlene) Frissell of Sewickley, Lorie (Thomas) Frissell Halbleib of North Huntingdon and Keith Frissell of Cape Coral, Fla.

She also is survived by her grandchildren: T.J. and Amy Halbleib, Kimberley Stewart, Sharon Frissell Klinefelder and Shawna Ribich; and great-grandchildren: Tyler and Madison Klinefelder, Nicholas Halbleib and Keith, Jesse and Zachary Ribich.

She was preceded in death by her brother, Roger Lindley.

Mrs. Frissell attended the University of Kansas as a music major and Milwaukee-Dowher College as a registered occupational therapist.

She was a former member of New Jersey O.T.A. and Western Pa. O.T.A., a member of St Andrew's Church and Sewickley Church Women United, the Pittsburgh Piano Teachers Association since 1977.



Sewickley Century Club, Sewickley Valley Historical Association (charter member), Sewickley Senior Citizens and Sewickley Valley Hospital Auxiliary.

Her activities included Sewickley chairman and area chairman of the March of Dimes for about seven years, neighborhood organizer of Girl Scouts for seven years, Sewickley Valley Hospital volunteer since 1961 and piano and organ teacher.

She was the accompanist and rehearsal pianist at Sewickley Academy since 1968, at the Pittsburgh Playhouse, Merry Operetta & Little Singers (starter group of North Star Kids), and at dance and voice studios in Columbus, Milwaukee and New York City.

She also was an organist at Casa Domia Restaurant.

Interment was in Sewickley Cemetery.

Cole Funeral Home Inc. of Sewickley handled the arrangements.

ON STAGE



REPRESENTING THE Youth Choir of Sewickley United Methodist Church, these children took part in the third Sunday of Advent musical, "The Simple Gifts of Christmas." The play focused on the Christmas story from the view of the animals such as Mother Cow, the donkey, the horses, sheep and the camels. Three Wise Men were played by high schoolers Erik Hess, Michael Lewis and Chris Nickell. The Rev. Barry Lewis was King Herod. Narration was done by Jack Moffett. Director of the Youth Choir is Sandra Lane. The children are (top row, from left) Faith Cook, Ciara Resler, Rebecca Lewis, Savannah Resler, Laura Hess, Julia Gittens, Sydney Lane; (middle row) Felicity Moffett, Bo Lenhardt, Christopher Gittens; (front row) Sarah Bollman, Grace Rogansky, Grant Lane, Allison Lenhardt, Franzi Nace.

IN MEMORY

Nellie Day
Wife & mother

Nellie B. Day, 91, of Sewickley, died Dec. 1, 2005, at the Masonic Village at Sewickley.

She was the wife of the late Ben E. Day; mother of Shirley A. Ross and her husband William of Conway, and Carol R. Yaster and her husband William J. Levant of Blue Bell, Pa.; grandmother of Benjamin Yaster of New York City and Jacob Yaster of



Philadelphia.

She was preceded in death by brothers, Thomas A. Buick and Edward Buick, and sisters, Mary Yurkovich and Josephine Buick.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held in St. Mary's Church, Glenfield.

Interment was in Sewickley Cemetery.

Donations may be made to Sisters of St. Francis, 3603 McRoberts Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15234-2398 or Masonic Village, 1000 Masonic Dr., Sewickley, PA 15143.

Copeland's Sewickley handled the arrangements.

Full obituaries for Charles Katona, who died on Dec. 16, 2005, and Frank Schroeder, who died on Dec. 16, 2005, will be printed in next week's Herald.

Richard D. Cole Funeral Home, Inc.

James T. Hughes - Supervisor

Kellie Tsouris Hughes - Funeral Director

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Thought for the Week

With Christmastime once again upon us, let us pause and remember the simple joys of days gone by. Though times have changed, the true spirit of the holiday remains forever constant. May the enduring happiness and brotherhood that marks this wondrous season be yours always.

In the true spirit of the Christmas season, let us pray that joy, beauty, hope and, above all, abiding faith be with us, one and all. May the blessings of peace surround us - the peace to build and grow, to live in harmony and sympathy with our fellow man. Let us pray that strength and abundant courage be given to all whose mission is to work for a world of reason and understanding - so that the good that lies in every man's heart may day to day be magnified...

We at Copeland, at this very special time of the year, would like to extend to all our friends and readers our warmest wishes for a Happy Holiday and a most joyous New Year.

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SPORTS



Bringing
the Heat

By Bill
Hartlep

Hoops teams
get shorter
holiday break

Winter vacation is upon us, which means a short break in the high school sports scene.

But while many of us will be spending the holidays eating cookies by the handful and taking advantage of super post-holiday sales at all the local department stores, all four Sewickley basketball teams will be battling on the hardwood in various holiday tournaments.

Sewickley Academy will head west for a holiday tournament at Eastern Illinois University for a three-day event, from Wednesday, Dec. 28, to Friday, Dec. 30.

For the past three years, the Panthers have gone to a tournament in Washington, D.C., but this season, the players wanted something new.

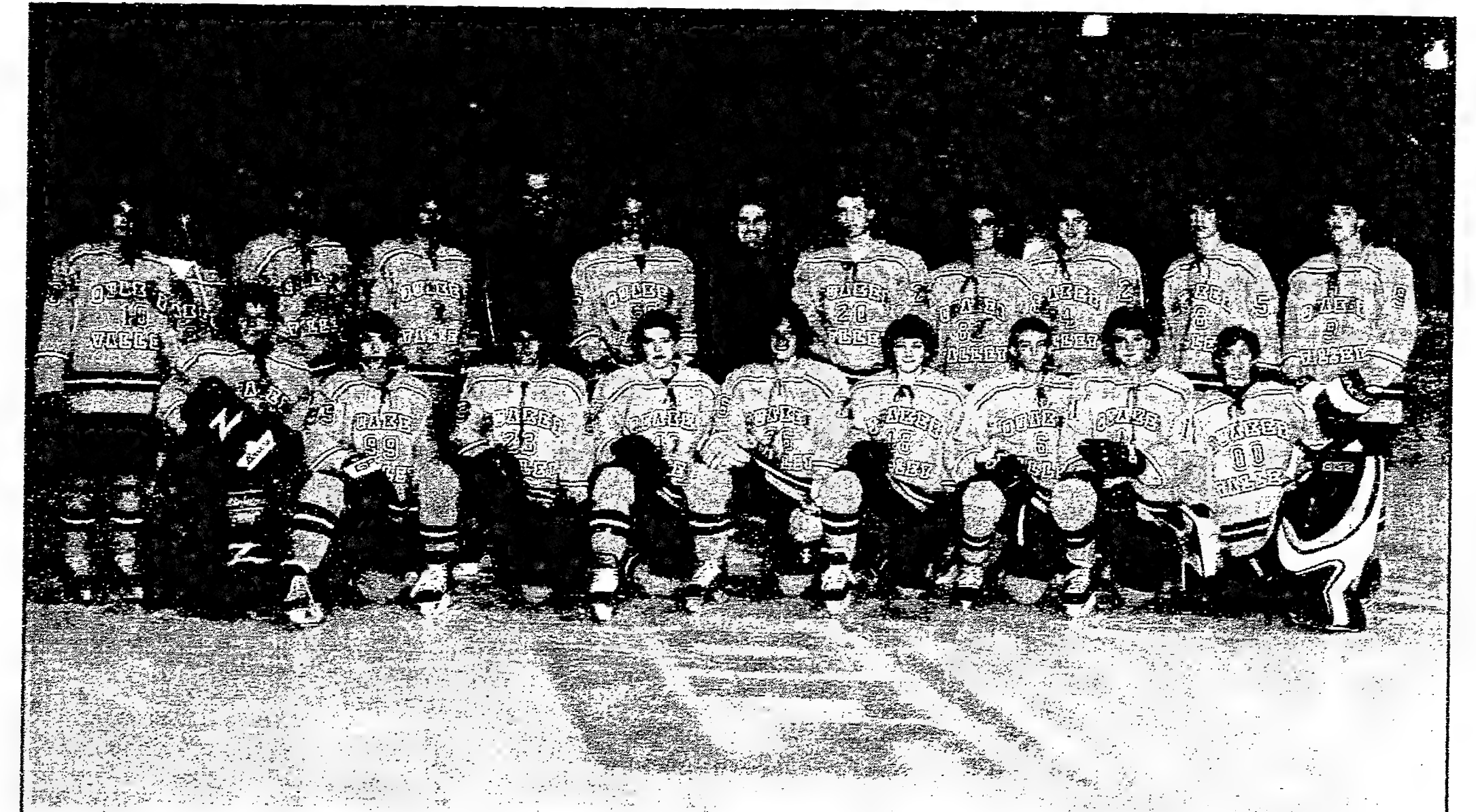
"We found a tournament that matches a lot of teams similar to what we see in the state of Pennsylvania," said coach Win Palmer.

"Our advantage is we'll never see these teams again. It gives us a freshness feeling. They also play in a beautiful, big arena. We just felt that it's great to get on a big floor, because hopefully later in the year, we'll be playing on some big floors."

The team will play three games against several AAA and Quad A caliber teams in the tournament, which is designed to allow the players to develop and enjoy the atmosphere, compared to other tournaments that just try and showcase as much talent as possible.

One of the perks of the trip will be staying in Champaign, Ill., home of the University of Illinois Fighting Illini.

Continued on Page 24



TOP-RANKED Quaker Valley has skated to an 8-0 start this season, including two victories over neighborhood rival, Sewickley Academy. The Quakers' undefeated mark will be challenged by powerhouses Serra Catholic and Bishop McCort in January.

QV sweeps season series with SA

By Bill Hartlep

Sports editor

For the past 10 years, Quaker Valley has not lost to Sewickley Academy on the ice.

RIVALRY GAME

Last week, in the second installment of the 2005-06 season, the Quakers continued their run with an 8-1 victory led by three shorthanded goals and two power play scores. Quaker Valley also knocked off SA, 5-2, earlier this year.

Furman South and Tim Hall each netted hat tricks for QV, while Colin South and John Chicots each found the net once.

Goaltender Zac Zinger recorded 23 saves on the night. He's given up just five goals this season.

"When we have everyone there, it gives us a lot of options both on the power play and penalty killing," said QV coach Kevin Quinn.

"We have a deep bench, so we're fresh throughout the game. It's nice when we have everyone there. But at the same token, a lot of players played

"We're pleased with the progress. We haven't played everybody yet. Our expectations remain high, so we want to continue to work hard and play like a number one ranked team every game."

QV coach Kevin Quinn

well (last week)."

The South brothers and Hall all play for the Pittsburgh Hornets and have missed portions of games this season. The three of them make up the first line for QV.

Quaker Valley got assists from Colin South (3), George Jackson, Aaron Kostial, Mikael Lemieux, Furman South (2), Shawn Ritchey and Hall.

Connor Blood scored for the Panthers on an assist by Brad Watts. The win improved the Quakers record to 7-0, while SA fell to 6-2.

Quaker Valley also defeated Conemaugh Valley, 9-1, last week to improve to 8-0.

Lemieux had a hat trick in the vic-

tory, while Greg Dyer and Breton McNamara scored twice. Jackson and Ritchey also had goals.

"We're pleased with the progress. We're pleased with where we are. We haven't played everybody yet. Our expectations remain high, so we want to continue to work hard and play like a number one ranked team every game," Quinn said.

"That's going to bode well for the end of the season, because we want to have the consistency and effort every game throughout in preparation for playoffs."

The Quakers have moved up to No. 1 in the PIIHL Class A rankings.

They will have crucial tests against second ranked Bishop McCort at home and No. 3 Serra Catholic, home and away, following the winter break.

The Panthers have been paced this season by Blood, who is the leading scorer in Class A with eight goals and 17 assists.

Scott Limbach has netted six goals and 12 assists, Watts has 10 and five, while Richard Thornburgh has recorded seven goals and eight assists. Steven Tehovnik has given up just 12 goals in the net this season, an average of two per game.

BRINGING THE HEAT

Local hoops teams in action over break

Continued from Page 23

"They would much rather do this than stay at home and practice or play the local teams," Palmer said.

"They love staying in a hotel, being with their buddies and playing in a first-class tournament. They really enjoy that."

Sewickley Academy will not only get a chance to practice for an evening at the University of Illinois gymnasium, they have also been given complementary tickets to a college basketball game.

The contest will feature the 2004-05 NCAA finalist Illini, who are undefeated this season.

Despite all of the basketball advantages this trip offers the Panthers, Palmer sees the largest benefit in the camaraderie the team will form as a result of the eight-hour bus ride and time spent together.

"To me, the most important thing is that the guys get to know each other and learn

strengths and weaknesses about each other both on and off the court and how to deal with each other."

The Academy will kick off the tournament against Illinois' own, Effingham.

The Lady Panthers will stay a little closer to home, traveling to Beaver County to play in the Hopewell Tournament on Wednesday, Dec. 28 and Thursday, Dec. 29.

Quaker Valley

Coach Tom Demko's Quakers will play in the three-day C.J. Better's Tournament at Center High School, from Wednesday, Dec. 28, to Friday, Dec. 30.

The Lady Quakers will play in the Neshannock Holiday Tournament on Tuesday, Dec. 27, and Wednesday, Dec. 28.

Good luck to all of the teams. Happy holidays!

Bill Hartlep can be reached at b.hartlep@gatewaynewspapers.com.

QV girls squad making strides under Williams

By Bill Hartlep

Sports editor

A record of 0-5 wasn't exactly the start that coach Curtis Williams was hoping for in his first season as head coach of the Lady Quakers, but the team has made drastic improvements since the beginning of the season.

GIRLS HOOPS

Last week's loss to Beaver Falls in the home opener was evidence of getting better as Quaker Valley rebounded from an 11-0 deficit in the first quarter to take a 24-20 lead at halftime.

The 24-9 run in the final 30 seconds of the first quarter and throughout the second quarter gave the girls confidence in their ability and showed that they could compete with a talented team.

Leading the attack for QV was sophomore Christa Rogers, who scored nine points, pulled down seven rebounds and recorded seven steals during the scoring run.

The Lady Quakers struggled to break the Beaver Falls full-court press in the second half, committing 17 turnovers in the process. The offense also had difficulties, scoring just three points in the third quarter.

Beaver Falls put up 35 points, compared to 11 for QV in the half, as the Lady Vikings went onto win, 55-35.

"We did alright," Williams said. "We did well in the second quarter, fought back and took the lead. We just had a mental breakdown in the third quarter, made a lot of mental mistakes and let the game slip away."

Rogers led QV in the loss, scoring 14 points, while adding 13 rebounds and eight steals.

"(Christa) is coming along," Williams said. "She's getting comfortable being a leader of the team. It's a big step - being a sophomore, being one of the leaders and

being the go-to player on the team. She's progressing."

Freshman Dominique Thomas contributed nine points, and senior Brittney Nolfi added seven points, including two baskets from behind the arc.

Williams said that the team has come a long way in the past month of the season, but is still behind rival schools in fundamentals and knowledge of the game.

"We're just working on executing and learning the game," he said.

"They still have a lot to learn about the game of basketball. It's a work in progress."

Quaker Valley, so far, has fallen to Carlynton (37-22), South Side Beaver (41-39), Riverside (45-38), Beaver Falls and Northgate (45-32).

The Lady Quakers took on Aliquippa Monday but results were unavailable.

The team will get a short break before taking to the court next Tuesday for the Neshannock Tournament.



Sophomore G/F
Christa Rogers
Photo by Tim Edmonson

www.yoursewickley.com

Leetsdale resident is world's toughest man

By Bill Hartlep

Sports editor

A sickle is defined as a tool used for cutting objects.

SQUARED CIRCLE

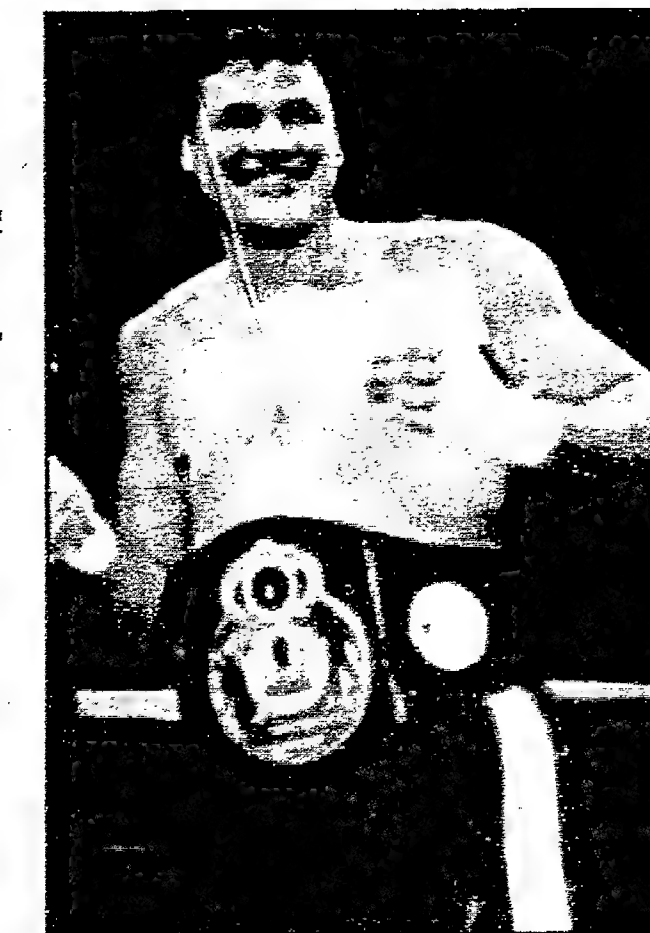
Glen "The Sickle" Sovich did just that earlier this month as he cut through all of the competition at the World Toughman Championship at the Foxwoods Resort Casino in Connecticut.

The Leetsdale resident boxed four heavyweight matches over the two-day tournament, posting first and second knockouts, along with two unanimous decision victories.

"I was pretty sure that I'd won the last fight," Sovich said. "I just couldn't wait until they made it official. When they announced that I'd won, I jumped into the crowd so that I could be with my friends and family that came to see me. It was exciting."

With the final victory over Ray "Cornfed" Carpenter, Sovich, 32, took home the title belt and a hard-earned \$20,000 payout.

"If you don't work hard, you're not going to make it," said Sovich, who also works as an Ambridge police officer. "I was in good shape. I



GLEN SOVICH celebrates his World Championship victory earlier this month. He earned a title belt and \$20,000.

trained since September, four to six days a week. I felt good. I didn't get hit in the first couple fights. I think I could've gone another one or two more."

It was the largest purse of his career, spanning 10 years of tough-

man bouts throughout the country, including top 16 finishes at the World Championships in Detroit and Las Vegas. More than 30,000 fighters enter the local contests before being selected for the championships.

Toughman fights are three, one-minute rounds with one-minute breaks in between. The format is very similar to boxing with a lot of the same rules and styles.

Sovich's career began at Center Stage in Beaver County, where he worked as a bouncer in 1996. A toughman event was coming up at the club and co-workers convinced the former Quaker Valley football star and Sewickley Academy wrestler to give it a shot.

He won the tournament, collecting \$1,000 in the process. After that, he went looking for more toughman events, fighting in West Virginia and Ohio, since toughman fighting was no longer permitted in Pennsylvania.

"I was having a good time doing it," said Sovich, who graduated from QV in 1992. "I like boxing and I like to stay in shape. There's no motivation like not wanting to get beat up in front of everybody."

To prepare for the fight, Sovich trained with Frank Guido at the Ambridge "Stay off the Streets" box-

ing gym, where he also trains younger fighters. He spent most of his time hitting the bags, shadow boxing and sparring with his brother, Brad, but also did a lot of cardiovascular workouts by running the hill in Sewickley Heights Park.

"I think (my advantage) was experience and knowledge from my trainer," Sovich said of Guido.

"He's fought a long time and he was able to offer me a lot of advice and things that other guys haven't seen. I was able to set up my jabs in ways guys haven't seen. I could've only used the jab and won in a couple of fights."

The Sickle isn't sure about a repeat appearance at the World Championships next year, but said that he's not ruling anything out.

He wants to focus on training his students at the Ambridge gym and keeping himself in good shape.

"Thirty-two's not that young to be doing this. I'm probably going to get chubby over the holidays and then I'll be motivated to start back training."

At a finely-tuned 225 pounds and boasting a World Toughman Championship belt, it would certainly take a brave person to call him chubby.

They better have their own sickle.

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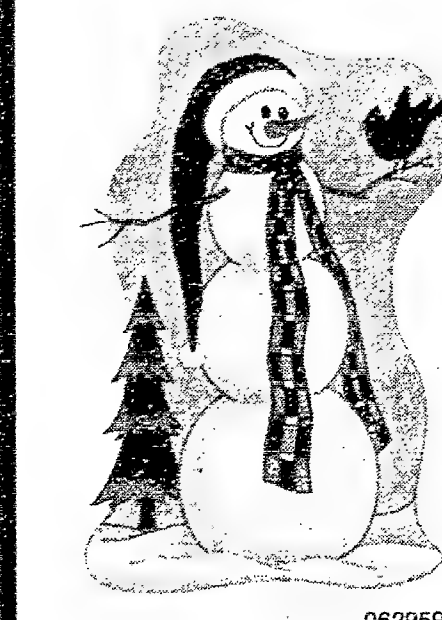
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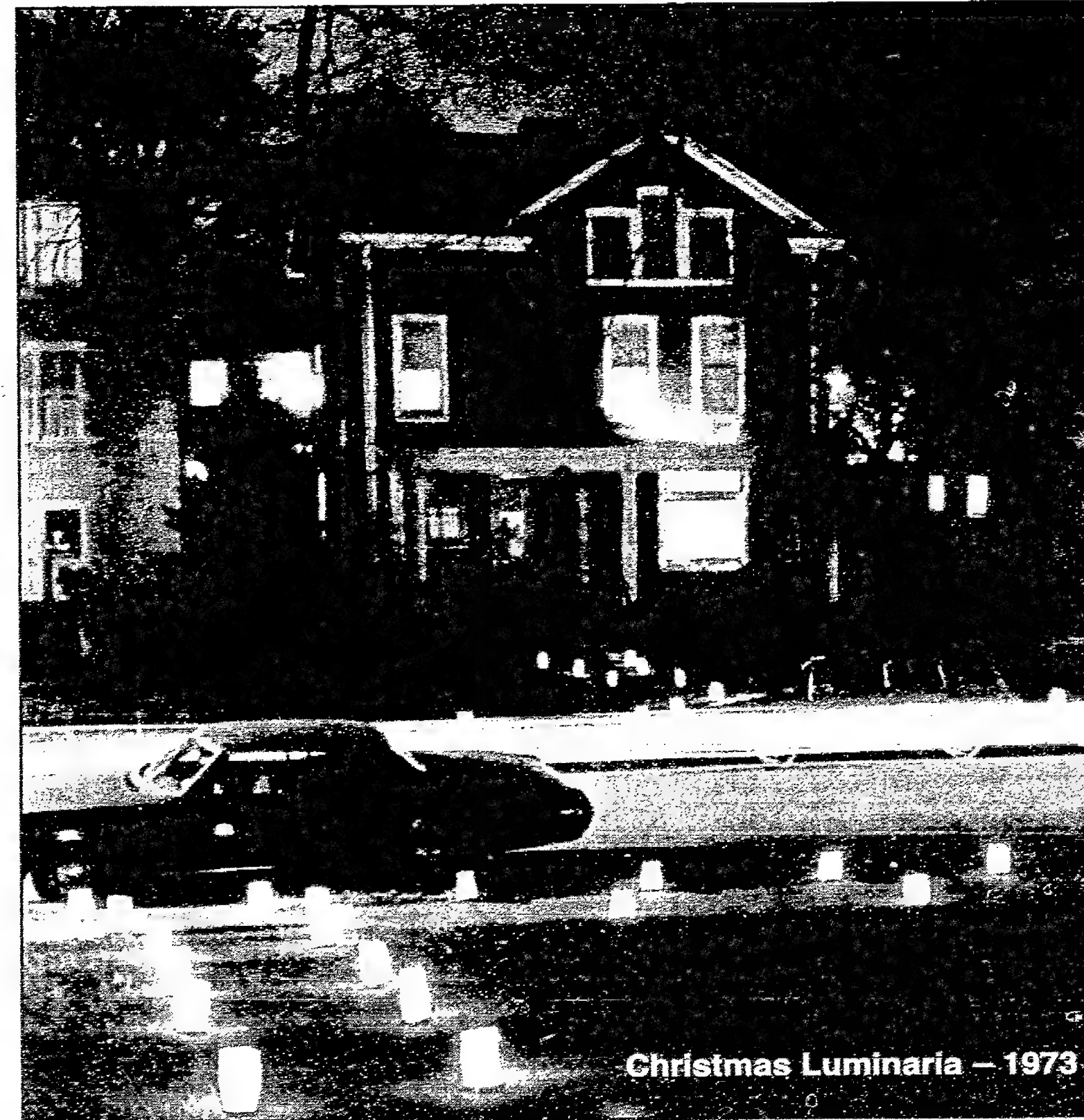
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MOVING ON

Klein officially named coach of Riverhounds

By Bill Hartlep
Sports editor

"I might be leaving the sidelines, but my heart will still be with the program."

These were the departing words of Quaker Valley soccer legend Gene Klein, who was officially announced as the head coach of the Pittsburgh Riverhounds last week.

Klein's accomplishments were numerous, culminating with a PIAA runner-up finish this past season. Since 1981, he has been a constant role model for hundreds of Quakers, who have all become better players and people because of him.

"It was real difficult to leave the players. It was especially hard because I really love our junior class, and I think they're a great bunch of guys. But I also know they will do well with whoever the coach is. It's a talented group," he said.

"I'm still going to be teaching at QV. I'll be supporting the guys and helping the kids out any way that I can."

The legendary field boss came to Quaker Valley 25 years ago after a coaching stint at CMU. He heard about a teaching position and soccer opening and jumped on it.

What followed was a career record of 454-114-37, 16 section, six WPIAL and six state championships.

The 1996 national high school coach of the year said, "The highlight for me has just been the opportunity to work with the players and the relationships over the years that I've had with all of our guys. That's been really special. I still keep in contact with a lot of guys. That, to me, has been the best part of my 25 years."

The new Klein era will soon begin with the Riverhounds, who start training in March to prepare for the April 22 game in Long Island. The team will then host a two-game home opener weekend on May 5-6, at Falconi Field in Washington.

"I think our goal is twofold," Klein said. "Number one, I want to win a champi-



Gene Klein
Riverhounds photo

onship. Number two, I want to make the Riverhounds a visible and viable part of the soccer community in Western Pennsylvania. We want to make it a program that everybody can be proud of. We want players in this area, high school and college, to have the opportunity to earn a living and play for the Riverhounds."

The coach has vowed to continue his focus on helping the game grow, starting at the youth levels where he hopes they can make a difference.

"If the Riverhounds are successful, it's going to help soccer grow in Western Pennsylvania. I'm committed to seeing the team succeed, because I know if we have some success, it's going to help the game grow," said Klein, who was a Riverhounds assistant for three seasons.

The Quaker Valley community is sad to be losing one of the WPIAL's coaching greats, but has offered nothing but well wishes for a successful run with the local pro team.

"Everyone's been really supportive. It's good to know that Quaker Valley soccer has made a positive impact for some people," Klein said.

"I think that people were sorry to see me go, but everybody understands this is a pretty good opportunity and I'm going to try and make the most of it."

The sidelines will change for Klein and players will be guided by new face.

But memories last forever, especially when they've been as special as Klein's and the Quaker Valley soccer faithful.



SEWICKLEY REAL ESTATE

HOME OF THE WEEK

Valhalla estate showcases quality amenities

Privately situated on a 23+ acre lot, which includes three 5+ acre lots, is one of Sewickley Heights' most admired estates.

This spectacular stone home has a dramatic entry with a waterfall and garden and opens to the sunken living room with a fireplace and wet bar.

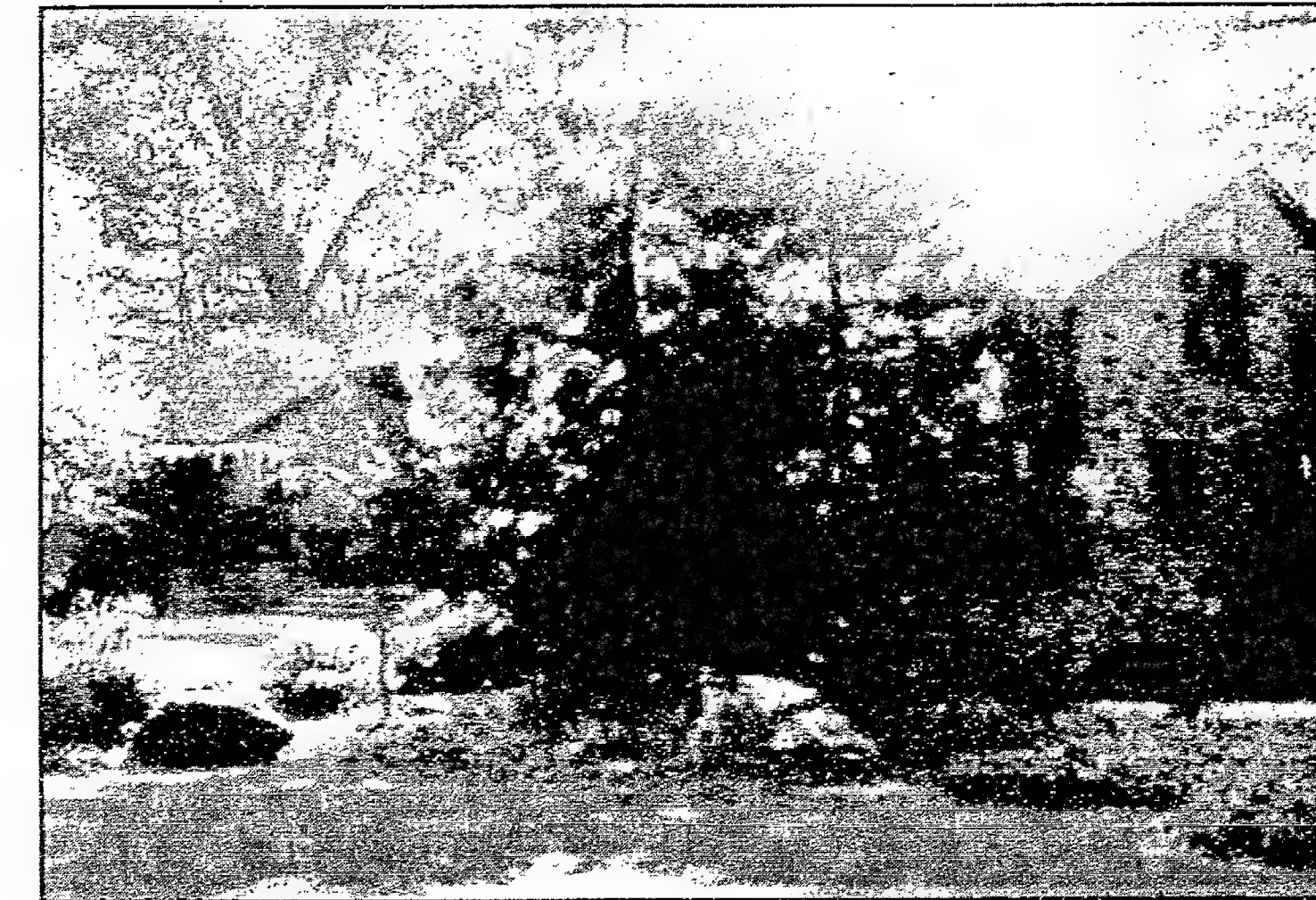
The adjacent dining room features built-in cabinetry and sliding glass doors to the deck.

Enjoy easy access to the gourmet kitchen with top-of-the-line appliances, center island, planning center, butler's pantry and breakfast area.

The family room includes built-ins, a wonderful stone fireplace and doors to a full bath and exercise room with views of the gently rolling countryside.

Also featured on the first level are two powder rooms, a handsome den with built-ins adjacent to the elegant master bedroom suite, which includes a stone fireplace, built-ins, three season sitting room and elaborate master bath w/whirlpool tub.

The second level includes four bedrooms and three full baths. The lower level boasts two game rooms with stone fireplaces, a grand bar along one wall and a full bath.



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discriminating buyers.

This home, located at 507 Valhalla Drive, is being offered by Howard Hanna Real Estate, Sewickley, for \$3,600,000.

For more information, call Betty Moraca at 412-741-9202 or Howard Hanna Real Estate at 412-741-2200.

REAL ESTATE TODAY

With less-than-spectacular stock market performance and bank deposit interest rates at disappointing levels, you may have been reading lately about how many investors are turning to real estate.

Stepping Into Investment!



Betty Moraca
ABR, CRS, CRS, GRI

If you don't regard yourself as a "big time" investor, but have some interest in how it all works, consider some basic ways to get started. The strategy is simple - try to buy low and sell (or rent) high. Ideally, someone else's payments will finance your investment (mortgage).

A good place to begin looking is foreclosures - properties usually bought at auction for less than market value. If you can rent for more than the mortgage payment, you're in the black. Just be very careful not to buy a home that will require more investment in improvements than you can recover.

On the flip side, you may be able to purchase a "fixer-upper" that needs serious repairs (not just paint and new windows). Don't balk at the cost of repairs, because you'll often find these properties at bargain-basement prices. Again, be completely certain you negotiate the lowest price and can afford the repairs to turn a profit from the sale or rent.

Of course, there are many ways to get involved in real estate investments. These are just two of the simplest and most straightforward for those who are getting their feet wet.

Betty Moraca is a sales associate for Howard Hanna Real Estate Services, 401 Broad Street, Sewickley. For answers to your questions about real estate, call Betty at 741-2200 Ext. 222. The Dozen's National Sales Award, Referral Specialist, Member Pennsylvania Association of Realtors, Realtors Association of Pittsburgh, West Penn Multi-List.

Advertisement



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A New Home for the Holidays!



Unbeatable Value in the Heart of Sewickley Village! Renovated from top to bottom, this classic Village home showcases gleaming hardwood floors, bright, sunny rooms, charming Victorian detailing, 5 bedrooms, 2 full and 2 half bathrooms, covered front porch, back deck, all new systems, central A/C and a beautifully landscaped, fenced yard. Home warranty included.
MLS#590226 \$279,500



The contractors just left this absolutely adorable, centrally located Sewickley Village home. 3 bedrooms, including one on the main level. Remodeled kitchen and baths, finished lower level, large landscaped lot, central A/C, covered front & back porches, hardwood floors, gorgeous views and more! MLS#589331 \$189,900



Kathie Barge, CRS, ABR

Associate Real Estate Broker
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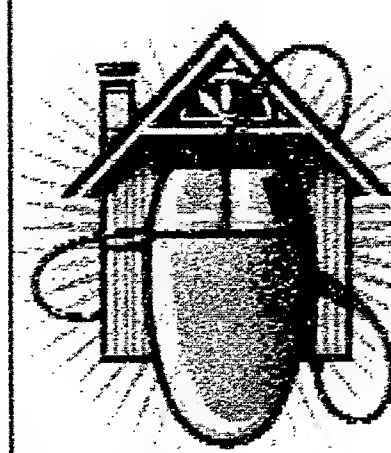
120754 Kathie Barge



SEWICKLEY REAL ESTATE

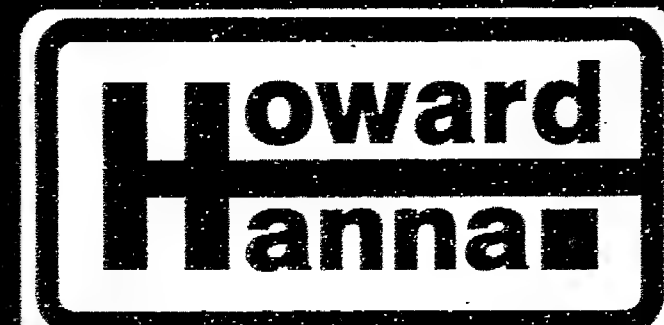


All real estate advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or intention to make any such preferences, limitations or discrimination. We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.



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- Howard Hanna.....www.howardhanna.com
- Coldwell Banker.....www.coldwellbanker.com
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Internet Access: Homes open 24 hours @ www.howardhanna.com

VILLAGE CONVENIENCE



Completely renovated convenient two-story Victorian in the heart of Sewickley's Village. New eat-in kitchen. Three bedrooms and two full bathrooms. Hardwood floors throughout. Living room with a fireplace plus a family room. Central air conditioning and a detached garage. Enjoy the location and convenience.

Mary O'Neill

412-741-2200

\$199,500

VILLAGE RANCH



Enjoy the convenience of one-level living in this Village ranch. Three bedrooms and 1.5 bathrooms. Large living room and dining room combination with a stone fireplace, and huge Florida room. Equipped eat-in kitchen. Finished lower level game room. Three car detached garage. A great location in a convenient neighborhood, call for details.

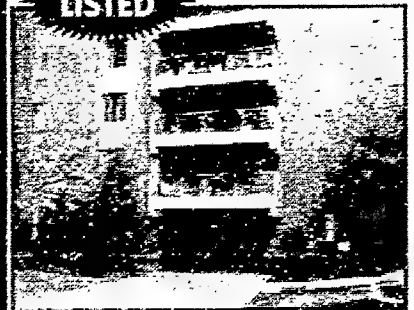
Pat Mooney

412-741-2200

\$199,900

JUST LISTED

THE LINDEN



Experience the convenience in living in one of Sewickley's most sought after addresses. A large, two bedroom, two bathroom coop with a neutral decor throughout. Large living room, formal dining room and equipped kitchen. Security building with 2 parking spaces. Monthly fee includes taxes, water, sewer, heat and cable. Call today for all the details.

Linda Taylor

412-741-2200

\$220,000

JUST OFFERED RESTORED VILLAGE COLONIAL



Thoughtfully restored, picturesque Colonial in a central Village location. Freshly painted this home has a new kitchen, new updated bathroom, new central air conditioning, updated electric and furnace. Three bedrooms and ample size formal living room and dining room, as well as an equipped gathering room. Experience the convenience of a great location and all the Village amenities.

Jim Boyd

412-741-2200

\$279,000

JUST LISTED SEWICKLEY VICTORIAN

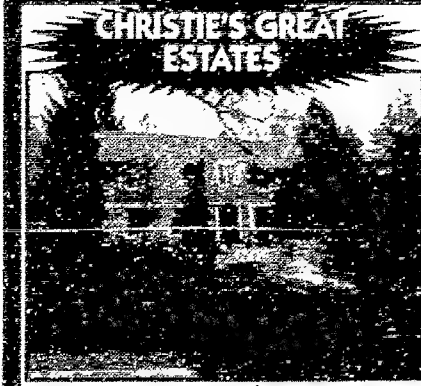


Gracious three story Victorian in the heart of the Village. Impressive, detailed entry with hardwood floors and opening stairway, formal living room and oversized formal dining room. Sunroom/family room adjacent to the dining room and equipped kitchen. Five bedrooms on the second and third floor. Two full bathrooms. Grace and fenced yard. Newer zoned heating and air-conditioning systems. New windows and insulation. The most convenient location location, call for all details.

Kathe Barge

412-741-2200

\$335,000



Stately Village Colonial, rich in historic origins and delightful architectural detail. Vestibule leading to the second floor, center hall entry with an open stair, flanked by the period dining room with paneled fireplace wall, and the grand formal living room with a fireplace, bookshelves and French doors to the windowed family room. Magnificent new addition, capturing the original details of this home, incorporating the gourmet, eat-in kitchen, spacious breakfast room, surrounded with totally new landscaped garden vistas, second open stairway and new bedrooms, baths and central living spaces. A beautiful marriage of historic detail with all of the amenities for today's lifestyles.

Carroll Ferguson & Gwen Larson

412-741-2200

\$1,230,000

Best Wishes For The Holiday Season

From Your Friends At
HOWARD HANNA'S SEWICKLEY OFFICE

MAJESTIC PROVINCIAL



Beautifully sited on six plus acres in Sewickley Heights. Grand two-story brick Provincial with towering entry and sweeping stairway to the balconied second floor landing. Two story family room with new designed mantel and fireplace. Spectacular views. Center island kitchen, planning center and breakfast area. Totally custom details throughout the den/library with bookcases, the welcoming living room and formal dining room. Four bedrooms and 3-1/2 bathrooms including the lush master suite with fireplace and spa like bathroom. Three car attached garage and beautifully landscaped lawn, gardens and drive. A masterpiece for today's living.

Betty Moraca

412-741-2200

\$1,500,000

SEWICKLEY HILLS COLONIAL



Beautifully maintained and updated brick Colonial. Formal living room and dining room. Family room with brick fireplace and doors to the terrace. New kitchen with white cabinet and granite counter tops and breakfast area with trayed ceiling and indirect lighting. Powder room. Four bedrooms and two updated bathrooms on the second floor. Experience the convenience of living in Sewickley Hills.

Betty Moraca

412-741-2200

\$315,000

COUNTRY COLONIAL



Fabulous home on 10 acre property with riding trails and stream in Franklin Park. Grand living room and formal dining room. Updated equipped gathering kitchen adjacent to the family room. Main level den and game room. Five bedrooms and 3-1/2 bathrooms. Hardwood floors on both levels. Studio and bath over the attached three car garage. New barn and riding arena. A wonderful home with all the amenities, scheduled away yet convenient to all routes. Call today.

Angie Haskell

412-741-2200

\$600,000

GRAND SEWICKLEY HEIGHTS ESTATE



Wonderful new construction incorporating the original home on this site. Grand formal great room with towering ceilings, windows, and fireplace. Formal dining room, family room, den, studio, and professional kitchen with dining area. Main level master bedroom suite with spa-like bath and dressing room. Wonderful casual living spaces, terraces and patios. A secluded setting this property also includes a gatekeepers and a two bedroom bungalow. Governors drive and four car garage. A wonderful estate in Sewickley Heights bordering the Village.

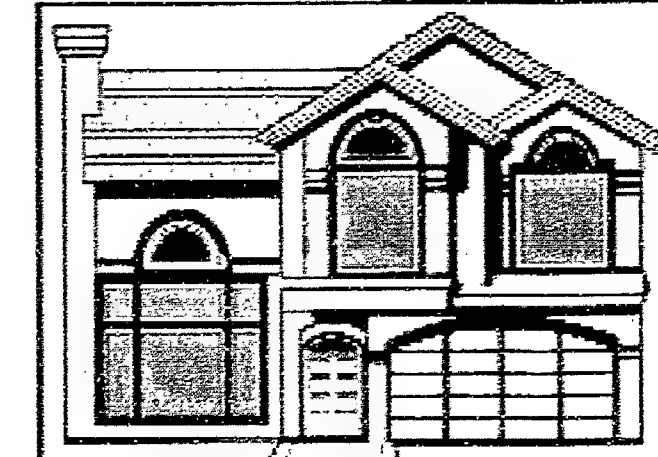
Kay Caravaggio

412-741-2200

\$1,900,000



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MARKET WATCH

Who's buying, who's selling around town

Edgeworth

Joseph Muller sold property at 407 Maple Lane to Gregory and Elizabeth Paul for \$400,000.

Sewickley

Topaz Properties LLC sold property at 883 Dickson Road to Erick and Sherri

Murray for \$18,000.

James Tiska et al. sold property at 238 Melville Lane to Antonio and Ida Verbene for \$125,000.

Mary Lyn McGinn sold property at 604 Mulberry St. to Stephen Philip Harris for \$49,000.

Mary Lyn McGinn sold property at 608 Mulberry St. to Nancy and Mark Davidson for \$110,000.

For more information, call 412-381-3880 or visit www.RealSTATs.net.



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at 421 Broad Street



EDGEWORTH

This inviting brick ranch style home is situated on a pretty treed lot just outside the Village area. Features of this home include a large living room, dining room, nice sized kitchen, 3 bedrooms and a den. There is also a newer roof, windows and mechanicals. Easy access to shopping, schools and transportation. Call for additional information.

\$198,000



SEWICKLEY HEIGHTS

This classic Colonial style home is sited on 5 acres along a peaceful and picturesque lane only minutes from Sewickley village. Some features of this fine home include a large living room with a fireplace, a formal dining room, eat-in kitchen and family room. There are 4 spacious bedrooms and 3.5 baths. The lower level provides a game room and office area. There are also 2 covered porches and a patio to enjoy the beautiful views. 2 car garage. Call for appointment.

\$785,000



SEWICKLEY HILLS

This very inviting two story home is situated in a pretty area which is conveniently located and only minutes to Sewickley Village. Some features of this home include a large living room, formal dining room, wonderful eat-in kitchen and a family room with a gas log fireplace. There are also 4 spacious bedrooms and 2.5 baths. 2 car integral garage. Newer roof and siding. Fabulous large lot.

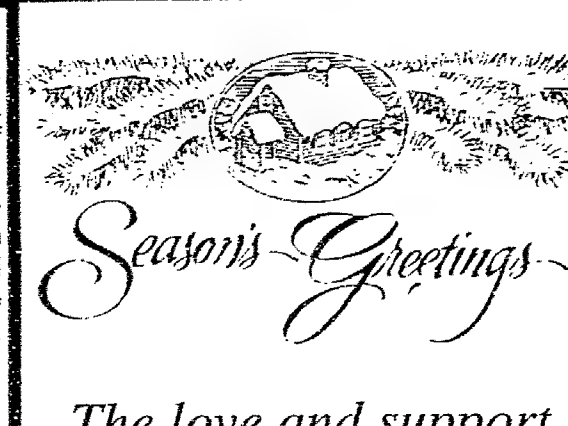
\$289,000



SEWICKLEY

This newly constructed custom designed home offers 4 spacious bedrooms including a two room master suite with a walk-in closet on the main level. The first floor also features a large living room with a fireplace, formal dining room, large well-equipped kitchen, laundry area and family room. There is also a game room on the lower level and a 3 car garage. Large lot and much more.

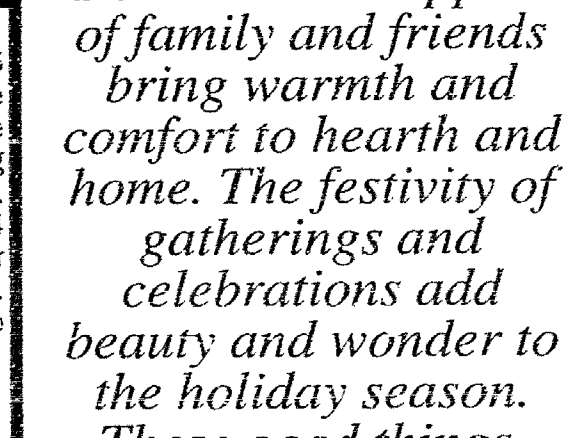
\$575,000



OSBORNE

Outstanding contemporary style home situated on 3.5 acres with a peaceful rippling stream. Exceptional quality throughout including 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths which are finished in marble and ceramic tile. The eat-in kitchen features ceramic tile and granite countertops. There is also a spacious living room, dining room and game room. Integral garage and much more.

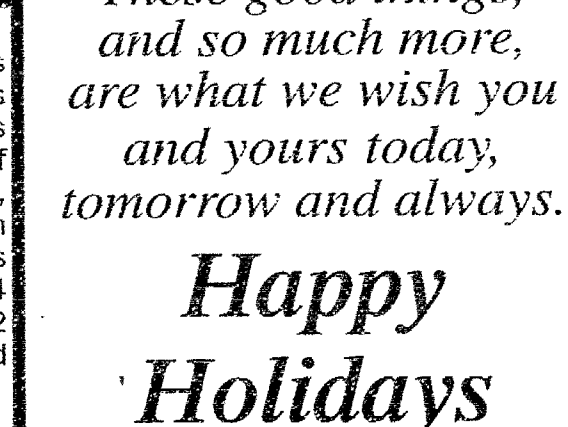
\$259,000



EDGEWORTH

This charming "farmhouse" style home is situated on a large, lightly wooded lot. Features of this wonderful home include 5 bedrooms and 3 full baths. There is a large, comfortable living room with a fireplace, an inviting formal dining room, updated eat-in kitchen, family room with a fireplace and a cozy den. There is also a pretty, covered porch and a fenced year yard. Integral garage. Great location just outside the Village area.

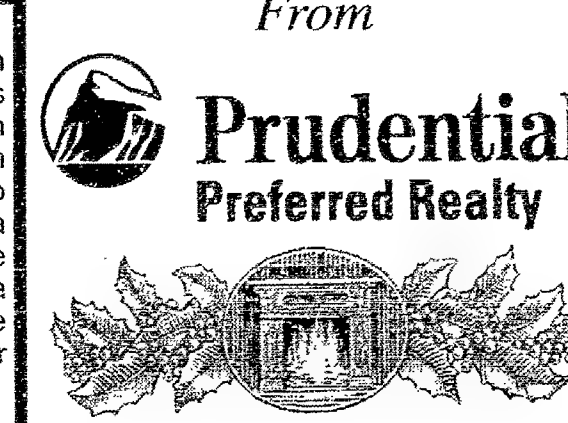
\$460,000



BELL ACRES

Exceptional stone and cedar contemporary style home on 1.3 acres with beautiful tiered garden areas. This home is bright and sunny offering approximately 3,000 sq. ft. which includes a very spacious living room with a fireplace, a formal dining room, a well-equipped eat-in kitchen with granite counters and a comfortable family room. There are 4 bedrooms and 3 full baths. The open floor plan features vaulted ceilings. 3 car garage.

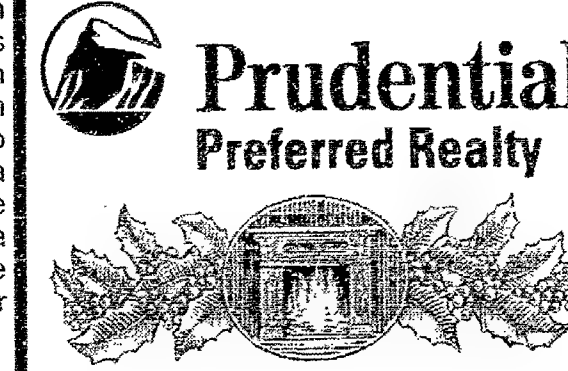
\$469,000



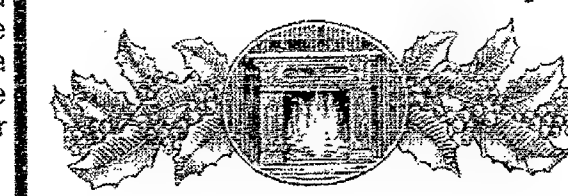
MOON TOWNSHIP

This outstanding brick and cedar Colonial style home is located in a pretty neighborhood and is very convenient. Features of this fine home include a spacious living room, dining room, well-equipped eat-in kitchen, family room with a vaulted ceiling and fireplace plus a den/office area on the first floor. There are 5 bedrooms and 4.5 baths which includes a beautiful master bedroom suite with a vaulted ceiling. 2 car attached garage and a level one acre lot.

\$389,000



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SEWICKLEY REAL ESTATE

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Howard Hanna 412-741-2200;
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to our friends & customers
from the agents at
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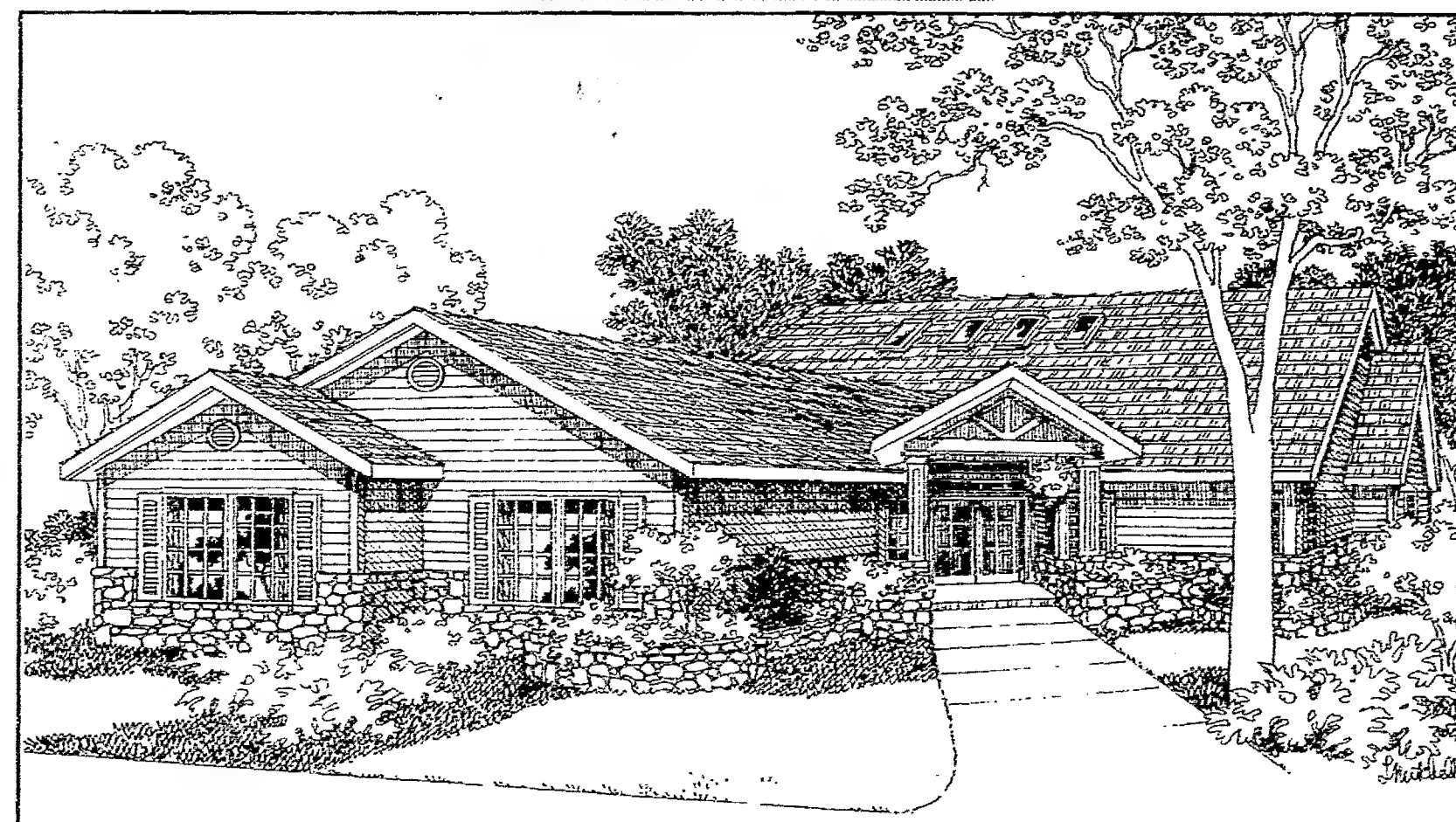
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DESIGN OF THE WEEK



Williston plan features indoor pool

An indoor pool is easily the most remarkable feature of the Williston, though not, by far, the only one.

The multilevel, curvilinear stone planters gracing the entry facade are also quite striking.

This plan is designed for active families who appreciate a relaxed mix of indoor and outdoor living environments.

Entering through double doors, you immediately face the sky-lit, glass-enclosed pool. Sliders in the dining room offer the closest access. You also can get to the water by passing through the utility room, equipped with a convenient shower and toilet.

Three sets of sliders open the pool to the exterior, maximizing fresh air circulation when desired.

The covered patio is handy

for outdoor dining, while the patio spanning the rear is great for soaking up rays.

Entry, living room and dining room are bright and spacious. All have 9-foot ceilings and are awash with light from the pool enclosure.

Kitchen and dining room flow together.

A raised eating bar provides partial separation without blocking the view. Kitchen counters wrap around four sides.

The built-in desk makes it easier to keep household affairs in order, and the huge walk-in pantry boosts storage space.

A mess-free gas fireplace in the living room offers concentrated warmth on chilly days.

The home entertainment center is sufficiently deep and wide to house an assortment

of electronic equipment plus a large collection of CDs, tapes and videos.

Amenities in the Williston's master suite include a generous walk-in closet, private bath with dual vanity and oversized shower.

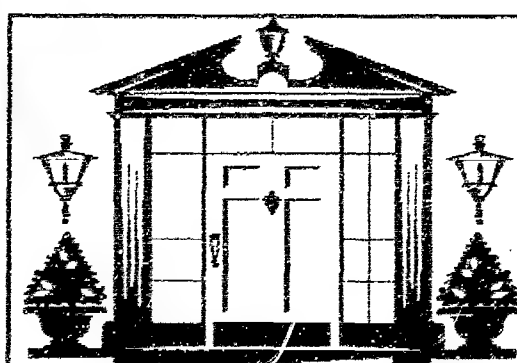
Last, but not least, it's mere steps to the pool.

For a review plan, including scaled floor plans, elevations, section and artist's conception, send \$25 to Associated Designs, 1100 Jacobs Dr., Dept. W, Eugene, OR 97402.

Specify the Williston 30-165 and include a return address when ordering.

A catalog featuring more than 550 home plans is available for \$15.

For more information, call (800) 634-0123, or visit our website at www.associateddesigns.com.



For more information to advertise in the Sewickley
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2006 READERS' CHOICE

PITTSBURGH TRIBUNE-REVIEW Gateway Newspapers

West Edition

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- Only original newspaper ballots will be accepted. No photo copies please. Only one ballot per envelope.
- People & businesses must be local to their newspaper's area.
- All ballots to be counted as valid must be at least 50% completed.
- Deadline is Monday, January 16, 2006.
- Limit 1 ballot per person.
- Ballots must be mailed to:
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4015.....Business Services
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6000.....Autos

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2030

MEETING NOTICES

BOROUGH OF SEWICKLEY HEIGHTS

REORGANIZATION MEETING

Notice is given that the reorganization meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Sewickley Heights, will be held on January 2, 2006 at 4:00 p.m. at the Sewickley Heights Borough Hall, Country Club Road, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania.

The Borough of Sewickley Heights
By: William P. Rohe
Borough Manager/Secretary

(3086993, 12-21-05, 12-28-05)

2030

MEETING NOTICES

CORNELL SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MEETING DATES FOR 2006

The Cornell School District Board of Directors will hold their Regular Board Meetings on the following dates and locations at 7:00 PM during the 2006 calendar year:

January 19, 2006
February 16, 2006
March 16, 2006
April 20, 2006
May 18, 2006
June 15, 2006
July 20, 2006
August 17, 2006
September 21, 2006
October 19, 2006
November 16, 2006

Neville Municipal Building
Cornell Education Center
Neville Municipal Building
Cornell Education Center
Neville Municipal Building
Cornell Education Center
Neville Municipal Building
Cornell Education Center
Neville Municipal Building
Cornell Education Center
Neville Municipal Building
Cornell Education Center

The Agenda/Workshop Meetings will be held on the following dates in the Cornell School District Library at 6:30 PM during the 2006 calendar year:

January 9, 2006
February 6, 2006
March 6, 2006
April 10, 2006
May 8, 2006
June 5, 2006
July 10, 2006
August 7, 2006
September 11, 2006
October 9, 2006
November 6, 2006

Patrick J. Berdine
Business Manager/ Board Secretary
Cornell School District
(3085242, 12-21-05)

NEVILLE TOWNSHIP

LEGAL NOTICE

The Neville Township Board of Commissioners will hold their reorganization meeting on Tuesday, January 3, 2006 at 7:00 in the Neville Township Municipal Building. The monthly caucus will be held immediately after the reorganization meeting.

Denise Moore
Township Secretary
(3081856, 12-21-05)

2020

BID NOTICES

TOWNSHIP OF ALEPPPO

PUBLIC NOTICE

2006

The Aleppo Township Commissioners will hold their Reorganization Meeting on Tuesday, January 3, 2006 at 7:30 PM in the Aleppo Township Municipal Building. At the meeting, the newly elected Township Commissioners will be sworn into office and the appointment of other Township Offices and Officials will be considered. Miscellaneous other matters will be considered as needed and addressed as provided by the Statute. (3085493, 12-21-05)

2030

MEETING NOTICES

BOROUGH OF SEWICKLEY

OFFICIAL NOTICE

The Zoning Hearing Board, Borough of Sewickley, will hear the following appeals and/or variances for the same on January 3, 2006 at 7:30 P.M., at the Municipal Building, 601 Thorn Street, Sewickley, PA 15143

Sylvia Juren, owner, of the property at 308 Logan St. Block & Lot #424198, in the R-1A Zoning District, proposes to erect an addition and seeks relief from Chapter 27 of the Sewickley Code of Ordinances Part 2 Section 208 Table 2 (Dimensional Requirements).

People who wish to comment, may do so at the above scheduled public hearing. A copy of the Sewickley Borough Zoning Code is available for public use at the Sewickley Public Library or at the Borough Manager's office. The Building Permit application is available for review at the Office of Building Inspections.

Michael M. Lyons
Zoning Hearing Board
Borough of Sewickley
(3082154, 12-14, 12-21-05)

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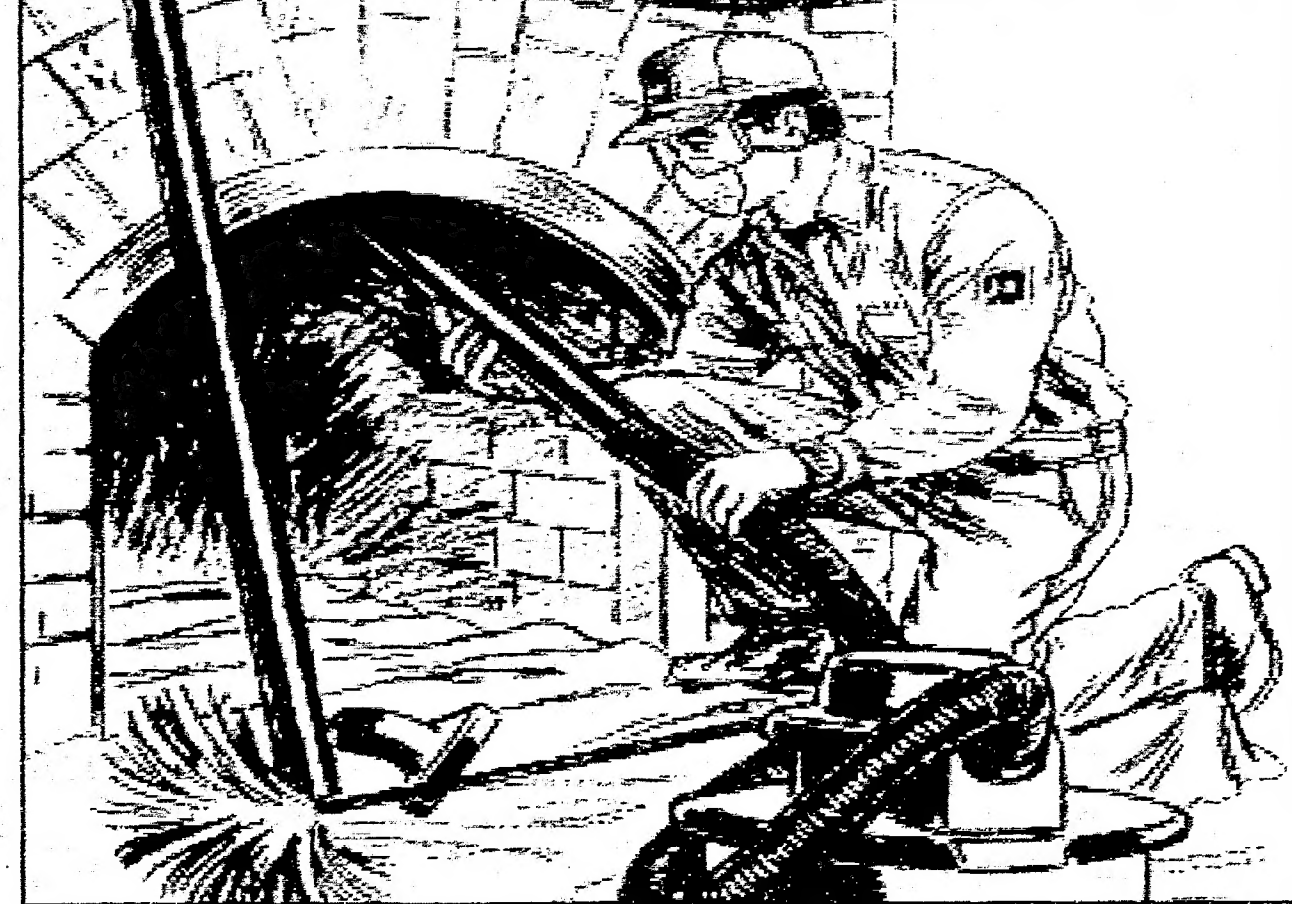
Keep your chimney fire-safe this winter

(NU) - The warmth and comfort provided by a wood stove or fireplace help make the winter months even more enjoyable. However, without proper maintenance, wood stoves and fireplaces can be potential fire and life safety hazards.

By taking a few simple precautionary steps before lighting a fire in your fireplace or wood stove, you can help protect your family and home this winter season.

The United States Fire Administration (USFA), a directorate of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, seeks to reduce the number of fire injuries and deaths in the United States. According to the USFA, the leading cause of rural residential structure fires is heating, and the most common area of fire origin in rural fires is the chimney.

"Important fire safety precautions should be taken when using a wood stove or fireplace," warns U.S. Fire Administrator Carrie B.



Brown. "Chimney ash and other buildup can cause dangerous fires."

The USFA recommends the following safety tips to help your family avoid a potentially life-threatening chimney fire.

• Have your chimney professionally inspected and cleaned each season.

• Build smaller, hotter fires that burn more completely and produce less smoke.

• Never burn cardboard boxes, wrapping paper, trash or Christmas trees - any of these can

spark a chimney fire.

- Use seasoned, dry hardwood.
- A grate should be used to allow for proper airflow beneath the fire to insure proper combustion of your "seasoned" fire wood.
- Install stovepipe thermometers to help monitor flue temperatures where wood stoves are in use, so you can adjust burning practices as needed.
- Use proper fireplace equipment such as fire-resistant gloves, tongs and pokers when tending your fire.

Remember to install and maintain smoke alarms on every level of your home, especially near sleeping areas, and remember to keep them clean and equipped with fresh batteries. Having a working smoke alarm more than doubles your chances of surviving a residential fire.

"Prevention and planning are the best defenses against becoming a fire statistic this winter," says the USFA's Brown.

2030

MEETING NOTICES

KENNEDY TOWNSHIP

ZONING HEARING BOARD

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Kennedy Township Zoning Hearing Board herein advises of an Appeal, No. 6-05, filed by Ryan Homes, Inc., 300 Siltar Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15205, requesting a variance to Article IV, Section 425 (Yard Areas) of Ordinance No. 171 for the property located at 122 Park Place Drive in Kennedy Township.

Said Appeal is scheduled to be heard on Thursday, December 22, 2005 at 7:30 P.M. at the Kennedy Township Municipal Meeting Center, 340 Forest Grove Road, Coraopolis, PA 15108.

KENNEDY TOWNSHIP
ZONING HEARING BOARD
Richard Sparrard, Chairman
(3087125, 12-21-05)

KENNEDY TOWNSHIP

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

The Kennedy Township Board of Commissioners herein advises of a special public meeting to be held on Friday, December 30, 2005, commencing at 7:00 A.M. at the Kennedy Township Municipal Center, located at 340 Forest Grove Road, Coraopolis, PA 15108. The purpose of said meeting will be to adopt the final budget for the year 2006 and any other business that may come before the Board.

Kennedy Township
Board of Commissioners
Gary R. Vituccio
Township Manager
(3087218, 12-21-05)

Legal Notice

Borough of Haysville

On January 3, 2006 at 7:30 pm The Borough of Haysville will hold a reorganization meeting followed by the regular meeting. The regular scheduled meetings for 2006 will be held on the second Tuesday of each month as follows: February 14, March 14, April 11, May 9, June 13, July 11, September 12, October 10, November 14, December 12. There will be no meeting in August. All regular schedule meetings will be held at 7:30 pm at the Osborne Elementary School, Osborne, Pennsylvania 15143. (3087136, 12-21-05)

2030

MEETING NOTICES

BOROUGH OF SEWICKLEY HEIGHTS

PLANNING COMMISSION

Notice is hereby given that the Planning Commission of the Borough of Sewickley Heights will meet on Thursday, January 5, 2006, at 5:00 P.M., at the Borough Hall, Country Club Road.

The Planning Commission will consider the proposed Beltz/Block Small Flow Treatment Facility (SFTF) on Blackburn Road.

The Planning Commission may consider other matters.

The Borough of Sewickley Heights
William P. Rohe
Borough Manager/Secretary
(3087384, 12-21, 12-28-05)

2030

MEETING NOTICES

NEVILLE TOWNSHIP

CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

The Neville Township Civil Service Commission will hold a public meeting on Monday, January 2, 2006 at 6:30 PM in the Neville Township Municipal Building. Any interested parties are invited to attend.

Robert Tafelski, Sr.
The Neville Township
Civil Service Commission
(3080807, 12-21-05)

LEGAL NOTICE

THE BOROUGH OF SEWICKLEY HEIGHTS

PLANNING COMMISSION

Notice is given that the regular meetings of the Planning Commission of the Borough of Sewickley Heights, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania for the year 2006 will be held at 5:00 p.m. prevailing time at the Sewickley Heights Borough Hall, Country Club Road, on the following dates:

January 5, 2006
March 9, 2006
May 4, 2006
July 6, 2006
September 7, 2006
November 9, 2006

The Borough of Sewickley Heights
By: William P. Rohe
Borough Manager/Secretary
(3086980, 12-21-05)

LEGAL NOTICE

BOROUGH OF SEWICKLEY HEIGHTS

PLANNING COMMISSION

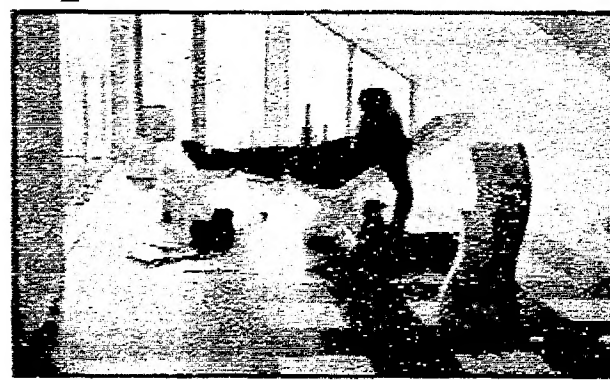
— Healthy environment, healthy house —

(ARA) — According to the Environmental Protection Agency, a growing body of scientific evidence indicates that the air within homes and other buildings can be more seriously polluted than the outdoor air in even the largest and most industrialized cities.

Most homes have more than one source that contributes to indoor air pollution; the cumulative effects of these sources can present a serious risk. Indoor pollution sources that release gases or particles into the air are the primary cause of indoor air quality problems in homes.

Everyday household items such as cleaning supplies and even carpet emit volatile organic compounds (VOCs), which have been blamed for symptoms such as eye, nose and throat irritation, headaches, skin irritation, shortness of breath and fatigue.

Carpet can also act as a "sink" for chemical and biological pollutants, including pesticides, dust



mites and fungi.

The most effective way to improve indoor air quality is to eliminate individual sources of pollution or to reduce their emissions. For those who would like to replace their carpet with a more natural flooring option, Marmoleum may fill the bill.

Well known among industrial contractors, Marmoleum was just recently introduced in 2002 to residential customers. It is a totally natural and biodegradable flooring made from linseed oil, pine rosin, wood flour and ecologically friendly pigments.

All materials come from renewable resources, making Marmoleum good for your indoor environment as well as the environment at large.

Even the backing used for Marmoleum is made from a natural material — spun yarn of strong jute fiber.

The result is a floor that is allergen-free, bacteria resistant, non-static and easy to clean. The adhesives used to install it are also environmentally friendly, totally free of solvents, and meet all low VOC requirements. "Many of its most desirable performance attributes are the result of the continued oxidation of the linseed oil over time," explains company spokesperson Piera Marotto.

And homeowners won't sacrifice style for sustainability. Marmoleum comes in 125 colors, which can be combined to create a completely custom floor by using insets, borders, and just about any design imaginable. While Marmoleum started off as a sheet product, 31 of these beautiful, vibrant colors are now also

available in tile. This infinite variety makes it the perfect floor for any room in the house. Because it's natural, Marmoleum isn't cold to the touch like ceramic tile or vinyl. "It is a softer, gentler, warmer floor," says Marotto.

Cleanup is a snap, a big plus for busy households. Sweeping, dust mopping and vacuuming generally take care of loose dirt and dust. Specially formulated, environmentally friendly Marmoleum cleaner can be used as needed. Because the flooring is naturally anti-static, dirt doesn't cling. Neither does pet dander or dust mites, making your home a whole lot cleaner and healthier.

While it is possible for experienced do-it-yourselfers to install Marmoleum, the company recommends using a professional; find installer and dealer information, as well as more details on the product, at www.themarmoleumstore.com.

Courtesy of ARA Content

2030 MEETING NOTICES

2030 MEETING NOTICES
TOWNSHIP OF NORTH FAYETTE

The following is a schedule of public meetings to be held by the North Fayette Township Board of Supervisors and the appointed Commissions, Boards and Authorities for the Township during the calendar year 2006.

Board of Supervisors: Regular monthly meetings held the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

Workshop Meeting held the 1st Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

Parks and recreation Board: Regular monthly meeting held the 3rd Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. with the exception of January meeting which will be January 9th. All meetings will be held at the North Fayette Township Municipal Building.

Planning Commission: Regular monthly meeting held the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the North Fayette Township Municipal Building.

Transportation Authority: Regular quarterly meeting held the 4th Wednesday of January, April, July and October at 7:00 p.m. at the North Fayette Township Municipal Building.

Zoning Hearing Board: Meets as required at 7:30 p.m. at the North Fayette Township Municipal Building.

All meetings will be held at the North Fayette Township Municipal Building located at 403 North Branch Road, Oakdale, PA 15071.

Western Allegheny County Municipal Authority: Regular monthly meeting held the 3rd Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the Water Authority Building located at 403 Virginia Drive, Oakdale, PA 15071.

All meetings are open to the public.

Robert T. Grimm
Township Manager
(308)7252, 12-21-05

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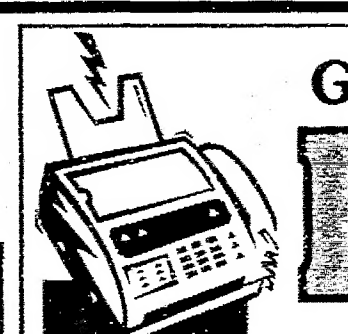
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— Get ahead by volunteering —

New survey shows direct link between volunteer work and professional success

(NAPSI)-According to a recent survey by Opinion Research Corporation, employed Americans overwhelmingly agree that volunteering in the community can help them get ahead at work. Nearly four out of five respondents view volunteering as an opportunity to develop such career skills as decision-making, problem-solving, negotiating and motivating others.

Commissioned by Deloitte & Touche USA LLP, the survey also revealed that 93 percent of the workforce believes that community service enhances leadership skills, 89 percent agreed that it enhances one's ability to achieve results and 88 percent said volunteering helps enhance decision-making skills. These results confirm that community service offers the opportunity to gain valuable professional skills while making a significant social contribution.

"Communities rely on volunteer support and we all have a respon-

sibility to get involved," said James H. Quigley, CEO of Deloitte & Touche USA LLP. "What we have seen at Deloitte, which is reinforced by the survey, is that volunteering offers people a way to develop the skills they need to be successful at work while making a contribution to their communities. There is no question that volunteering is an outstanding professional development tool because of the real experience it provides."

The findings support the case for corporate volunteer programs which, according to the Points of Light Foundation & Volunteer Center National Network, are increasingly being tied to business objectives. For example, Deloitte encourages all of its 30,000 people to set aside their work to volunteer on IMPACT Day, its national day of community service. On IMPACT Day, in cities across the country, Deloitte employees address a variety of social issues in-

cluding literacy and learning, homelessness, neighborhood restoration and revitalization, and affordable housing development. In addition to contributing their time and talent to the community, participation in IMPACT Day provides Deloitte's people with the opportunity to hone their professional skills. While supporting a nonprofit of their choice, the volunteers will enhance their leadership and teaming skills, while motivating others and working to achieve results.

"Most people are well aware of the effect volunteering can have in our communities," said Robert K. Goodwin, President and CEO of the Points of Light Foundation & Volunteer Center National Network. "The results of this survey indicate that people realize volunteering is mutually beneficial not only on a personal level but also professionally, which is important to the community, company, and

employees."

"IMPACT Day is a reflection of our values and our overall commitment to the community," said Quigley. "One of the reasons IMPACT Day is so effective is because our people get as much from volunteering as they give." Deloitte also supports its people's commitment to the community throughout the year.

Goodwin noted many companies set strong examples when it comes to employee volunteer programs. "Deloitte is one organization that really understands the importance of volunteering, and they are known for giving their people the time to get out and give back. IMPACT Day is a solid example of their commitment to service," he added.

Deloitte volunteers teach ethics education to school children on IMPACT Day, among many other activities.

— Why all-season tires may not be the best —

by Ron Margadonna

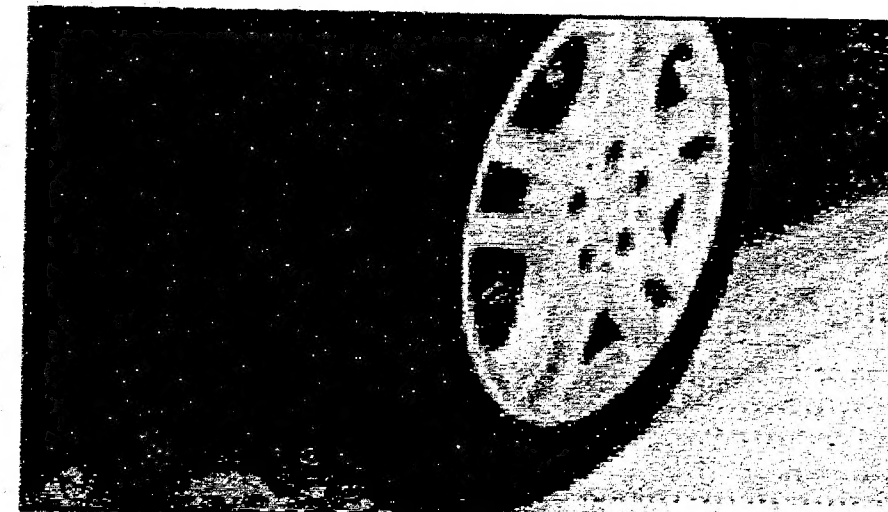
(NAPSI)-While many drivers depend on all-season tires to overcome the obstacles of rough weather, a simple changeover to winter tires can help provide total traction and the confidence needed to travel through severe ice and snow.

Four-Season Focus

The all-season tire was created to give drivers a level of traction throughout the entire year and to provide the convenience of avoiding a tire changeover.

An all-season tire was intended only to provide adequate snow traction in areas that received moderate levels of snowfall, both in frequency and amount.

All-season tires were not designed for heavy snowfall, nor were they designed to provide added traction on icy surfaces that are commonly encountered in even moderate amounts of snow.



Driven By Safety-Winter tires are the best choice for drivers in heavy snow-fall areas.

Through Ice, Sleet Or Snow

Winter tires have evolved into highly engineered products that address the range of driving conditions that consumers face, including snow, ice, slush, and wet and dry roads. Not only are winter tires the optimum choice for drivers in heavy snowfall areas, they are also suitable for drivers in moderate snowfall areas, where icy conditions can be found.

The evolution of winter tires continues to be driven by consumer demand to improve traction

molding technologies enable designers to create tread designs with greater lateral density, which improves snow traction while simultaneously reducing tire noise.

Markings Make A Difference

One element that may confuse consumers is the "M+S" marking that was adopted by the tire industry in the early 1980s, when the all-season tire was first marketed, to identify certain tires "suitable" for snow. Unfortunately, this marking gives the false impression that tires marked "M+S" will meet all winter driving needs. Tires meeting this criterion are marked with the new icon that looks like a mountain peak with a snowflake.

The symbol applies to passenger and light truck tires and can be found on Michelin X-Ice winter tires.

Ron Margadonna is Technical Marketing Manager, Michelin North America.

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